IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of San Luis Obispo, State of California

_____day _____, 20___

PRESENT: Supervisors

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND APPROVING THE CYPRESS MOUNTAIN DRIVE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The following resolution is now offered and read:

WHEREAS, the Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge (County Bridge #5265 BR3), which was built in 1953, has been identified as requiring replacement due to its condition and the desire to provide bridges that meet current public road and bridge design parameters and the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Federal Highway Administration have agreed that the bridge meets Federal criteria for replacement and is eligible for funding by the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement Program; and

WHEREAS, the Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement Project consists of the replacement of the Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge over Klau Creek (the "Project"); proposed activities under the Project include bridge demolition and construction activities, staging, bank stabilization, and habitat restoration; and the Project includes elements to restore riparian habitat, and reduce erosion and sedimentation in Klau Creek; and

WHEREAS, an Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration have been prepared for the Project and circulated for agency and public review and comment (the "Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration"), all in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, together with state and local guidelines implementing said Act, all as amended to date (collectively, "CEQA"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project and intends to take actions on the Project in compliance with CEQA; and

WHEREAS, the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project are, by this reference, incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, local CEQA Guidelines adopted by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Section 21082 of the Public Resources Code designate the Environmental Coordinator as the person to make environmental determinations and recommendations pursuant to CEQA, and the Environmental Coordinator has reviewed and recommended adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, as follows:

1. That the following findings are made:

    a) The Board of Supervisors has reviewed the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and other information in the whole record and has considered the information contained therein; and

    b) The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Project has been completed in compliance with CEQA; and

    c) The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration represents the independent judgment and analysis of the County as Lead Agency for the Project.

2. That the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the related Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared for the Project, which are attached hereto collectively as Exhibit A and are incorporated herein by reference, are hereby adopted; and

3. That the Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement project described in the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration is hereby approved and the Public Works Department is hereby directed to complete associated project development activities, including but not limited to: right-of-way processes; environmental regulatory permits; and preparation of final plans and specifications

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

the foregoing Resolution is hereby adopted on the ____ day of _____, 20___.

_____
Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

_____
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

[SEAL]

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

By: _____
Assistant County Counsel

Dated: April 20, 2015

L:\DESIGN\APR15\BOS\300432 Cypress Mtn Dr Bridge Rpl MND rsl.docx CM:jb

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }
County of San Luis Obispo, } ss.

I, _____, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in and for the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of an order made by the Board of Supervisors, as the same appears spread upon their minute book.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board of Supervisors, affixed this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

_____
County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors

(SEAL)

By _____
Deputy Clerk.

EXHIBIT A

Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement Project
ED13-248/300432

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, NOTICE OF DETERMINATION, & INITIAL STUDY

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
ENVIRONMENTAL & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

County File Number: ED13-248 (300432) SCH Number: _____

COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CYPRESS MOUNTAIN DRIVE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION & INITIAL STUDY

Abstract

The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works (County) is proposing to replace a structurally deficient bridge on Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek (Bridge No. 49C-0033). Activities associated with construction of the new bridge will consist of clearing and grubbing, demolition of the existing bridge, excavation and placement of concrete abutments and cast-in-drilled hole pile foundations, false work installation and removal, placement of reinforced concrete slab, barrier and guard rail installation, retaining wall construction, culvert replacement with RSP, and habitat and bank restoration. A temporary crossing through the creek on the east side of the existing bridge will be required to allow access for residents until construction of the new bridge is completed to prevent complete closure of the road. Occasional temporary road closures will be required during working hours to facilitate the work.

A temporary creek diversion will likely be required to convey flows through the project site. To implement the project, the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works will be required to obtain permits from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project will result in approximately 1 acre of total disturbance. The project is located in the Adelaida subarea of the North County planning area in Supervisorial District 1.

Comments on this document should be sent to Katie Drexhage, County Department of Public Works, County Government Center, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408.

The following persons may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

Katie Drexhage, Environmental Programs Division
or
Cori Marsalek, Project Manager
County Department of Public Works
County Government Center, Room 206
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
(805) 781-5279

This proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration has been issued by:

Jan. 20, 2015
Date

Ellen Carroll
Ellen Carroll, Environmental Coordinator
County of San Luis Obispo

The project proponent, who agrees to implement the mitigation measures for the project, is:

January 21, 2015
Date

Dave Flynn
Dave Flynn, Deputy Director of Public Works
County of San Luis Obispo

Initial Study Summary – Environmental Checklist

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
976 OSOS STREET • ROOM 200 • SAN LUIS OBISPO • CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5600

(ver 5.3)Using Form

Project Title & No. **Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Bridge Replacement Project, ED13-248, 300432**

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The proposed project could have a "Potentially Significant Impact" for at least one of the environmental factors checked below. Please refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either reduce these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Geology and Soils	☐ Recreation
☐ Agricultural Resources	☒ Hazards/Hazardous Materials	☐ Transportation/Circulation
☒ Air Quality	☐ Noise	☐ Wastewater
☒ Biological Resources	☐ Population/Housing	☒ Water /Hydrology
☐ Cultural Resources	☐ Public Services/Utilities	☐ Land Use

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the Environmental Coordinator finds that:

☐ The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Katie Drexhage			1/20/15
Prepared by (Print)	Signature		Date
Rob Fitzroy		Ellen Carroll, Environmental Coordinator	1/20/15
Reviewed by (Print)	Signature	(for)	Date

Project Environmental Analysis

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The County Planning Department uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Planning Department, 976 Osos Street, Rm. 200, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

A. PROJECT

DESCRIPTION: The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works (County) is proposing to replace a structurally deficient bridge on Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek (Bridge No. 49C-0033). The project is located in the Adelaida subarea of the North County planning area in Supervisorial District 1 (see Figure 1).

The existing one-span timber bridge on stone masonry abutments was built in 1953. The existing bridge has a clear deck width of 14 feet, which is non-standard for a two-lane facility. The proposed bridge replacement will generally follow the existing alignment and will clear span approximately 54 feet over Klau Creek. The proposed bridge replacement structure would be a concrete slab bridge with a clear deck width of 24 feet in order to accommodate 10-foot travel lanes and 2-foot shoulders. Concrete barriers with tubular hand railing and guard rail end treatments will be installed. The proposed bridge replacement activities would be limited to the bridge work and up to 400 feet of road approach work on either side of the bridge. Right-of-way acquisition for temporary and permanent easements onto private properties will be required to accommodate the proposed construction activities. Three proposed staging areas have been identified, two on the existing road approaches on either end of the bridge and one directly adjacent to the project site. Construction equipment will access the site from the existing road.

Activities associated with construction of the new bridge will consist of clearing and grubbing, demolition of the existing bridge, excavation and placement of concrete abutments and cast-in-drilled hole pile foundations, false work installation and removal, placement of reinforced concrete slab, barrier and guard rail installation, retaining wall construction, culvert replacement with rock slope protection (RSP), and habitat and bank restoration. A temporary crossing through the creek on the east side of the existing bridge will be required to allow access for residents until construction of the new bridge is completed to prevent complete closure of the road. Occasional temporary road closures will be required during working hours to facilitate the work. It is anticipated that several trees within the riparian area will need to be removed to accommodate the construction of the new bridge as well as the temporary detour. Work in the channel will be required for the removal of the existing bridge, placement of the temporary creek crossing, and installation and removal of the false work. A temporary creek diversion will likely be required to convey flows through the project site. The creek diversion will include temporary cofferdams at the upstream and downstream ends of the project to isolate the work area. The project will result in approximately 1 acre of total disturbance. To implement the project, the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works will be required to obtain permits from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

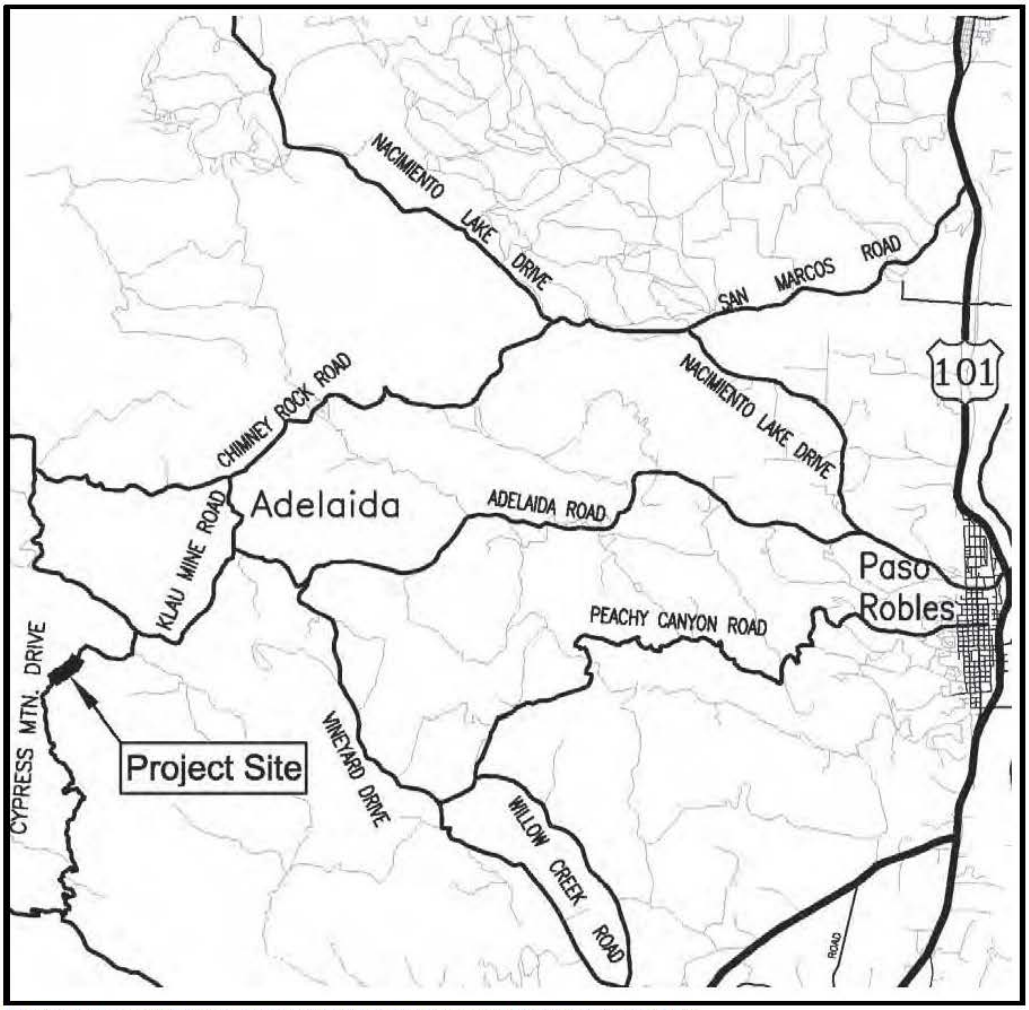

Figure 1: Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement Project Vicinity Map

Work in the channel will be required for the removal of the existing bridge, placement of the temporary creek crossing, and installation and removal of the false work. Construction will take place between May 1 and November 1 is anticipated to last one construction season.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): 014-091-024 and 014-321-014

Latitude: 35°37'07" N Longitude: 120°54'43" W **SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #** 1

B. EXISTING SETTING

PLANNING AREA: Adelaida, Rural

LAND USE CATEGORY: Agriculture

COMBINING DESIGNATION(S): Geologic Study

TOPOGRAPHY: Gently rolling

VEGETATION: Riparian Oak woodland Ruderal

PARCEL SIZE: Not applicable

EXISTING USES: Undeveloped, bridge

SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:

North: Agriculture; undeveloped	*East:* Rural Lands; undeveloped
South: Rural Lands; undeveloped	*West:* Agriculture; undeveloped

C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

During the Initial Study process, at least one issue was identified as having a potentially significant environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1. AESTHETICS *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Change the visual character of an area?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Create glare or night lighting, which may affect surrounding areas?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Impact unique geological or physical features?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Bridge is located on Cypress Mountain Drive in rural San Luis Obispo County. The project site is in a very sparsely populated, mountainous area approximately 12 miles west of Paso Robles, 8 miles south of Lake Nacimiento, 10 miles east of Cambria, and 11 miles north of Cayucos. The bridge is located over Klau Creek in the northern Santa Lucia Range. Klau Creek is a perennial stream with water typically present throughout the year, except in extremely dry years. The project site is visible only from Cypress Mountain Drive in the vicinity of the bridge.

Impact. The project would not introduce a new type of roadway feature to the setting. The project would replace an existing bridge with a similar bridge in the same location. The new bridge would be similar in size and height, but would be widened to meet standard lane and shoulder width requirements. No Scenic Resources such as unique or outstanding trees, rock outcrops, historic buildings or other structures would be affected. No noise barriers, signage, or significant landform changes would result from the project. The project would not result in unsightly conditions or expose unsightly areas that are now screened from public view. Therefore, impacts to compatibility, scenic views, and unique physical features would be less than significant. In addition, no lighting is proposed for this project. The project will not result in impacts as a result of lighting or glare.

Various species of trees that may be impacted by project activities (i.e., trimmed or removed) include white alder, foothill pine, western sycamore, coast live oak, valley oak, and California bay laurel. These species are common throughout the project area. Removal of these trees would not represent significant visual impacts; however, mitigation measures required for biological impacts, including habitat restoration and tree replacement, would provide a co-benefit and further reduce visual impacts.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Visual impacts as a result of tree removal activities would be mitigated through habitat restoration activities outlined in the Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Report prepared for the project (Appendix A). No additional visual mitigation measures are anticipated.

2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Convert prime agricultural land, per NRCS soil classification, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or Williamson Act program?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The Klau Creek Bridge is located within a riparian habitat along Cypress Mountain Drive. The bridge is located in rural San Luis Obispo County and is located between lands zoned for agriculture and rural lands.

Land Use Category: Agriculture, Rural Lands

State Classification: Not prime farmland

Historic/Existing Commercial Crops: None

In Agricultural Preserve? Yes

Under Williamson Act contract? Yes

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), has mapped one soil series within the project vicinity (SCS 1984):

Los Osos-Lodo complex (50 - 75 % slope).

Los Osos. This very steeply sloping fine loamy soil is considered not well drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and moderate shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock, slow percolation. The soil is considered Class VII without irrigation and Class is not rated when irrigated.

Lodo. This steeply to very steeply sloping fine loamy soil is considered very poorly drained. The soil has moderate erodibility and moderate shrink-swell characteristics, as well as having potential septic system constraints due to: steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock. The soil is considered Class VII without irrigation and Class is not rated when irrigated.

Impact. The soil within the project area is not irrigated and therefore, not considered prime farmland. The agricultural land surrounding the project site is not actively used for row-crops or vines. The fields are grazed by cattle. A temporary bridge will be placed ~~upstream~~ downstream of the new bridge to allow for farm equipment and residential access across the creek prior to and after daily construction activities that could result in airborne dust (airborne dust control measures are discussed further in the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section). The project site will be closed to through traffic during daily construction activities that could result in airborne dust between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. on weekdays, and between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The project will not impact prime farmland or any property that is currently row-crops, vines, or other active agricultural uses. Coordination with surrounding landowners and residents regarding road closures will occur through

County public outreach.

The proposed project was referred to the San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office on June 25, 2014, for review and determination of any agricultural resources impacts potentially resulting during the project's construction. The Agricultural Commissioner's office indicated "no concerns" in response to the referral notice based on the County's public outreach plan.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant impacts to agricultural resources are anticipated and no mitigation measures are necessary.

3. AIR QUALITY ***Will the project:***	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant either considered in non-attainment under applicable state or federal ambient air quality standards that are due to increased energy use or traffic generation, or intensified land use change?	☐	☐	☒	☐
GREENHOUSE GASES				
f) ***Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?***	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has developed and updated their CEQA Air Quality Handbook (2012) to evaluate project specific impacts and help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality

levels, a Clean Air Plan has been adopted (prepared by APCD).

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions are said to result in an increase in the earth's average surface temperature. This is commonly referred to as global warming. The rise in global temperature is associated with long-term changes in precipitation, temperature, wind patterns, and other elements of the earth's climate system. This is also known as climate change. These changes are now thought to be broadly attributed to GHG emissions, particularly those emissions that result from the human production and use of fossil fuels.

The passage of AB32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act (2006), recognized the need to reduce GHG emissions and set the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the State of California into law. The law required that by 2020, State emissions must be reduced to 1990 levels. This is to be accomplished by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from significant sources via regulation, market mechanisms, and other actions. Subsequent legislation (e.g., SB97-Greenhouse Gas Emissions bill) directed the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop statewide thresholds.

In March 2012, the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) approved thresholds for GHG emission impacts, and these thresholds have been incorporated the APCD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook. APCD determined that a tiered process for residential / commercial land use projects was the most appropriate and effective approach for assessing the GHG emission impacts. The tiered approach includes three methods, any of which can be used for any given project:

1. Qualitative GHG Reduction Strategies (e.g. Climate Action Plans): A qualitative threshold that is consistent with AB 32 Scoping Plan measures and goals; or,
2. Bright-Line Threshold: Numerical value to determine the significance of a project's annual GHG emissions; or,
3. Efficiency-Based Threshold: Assesses the GHG impacts of a project on an emissions per capita basis.

For most projects the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 Metric Tons CO2/year (MT CO2e/yr) will be the most applicable threshold. In addition to the residential/commercial threshold options proposed above, a bright-line numerical value threshold of 10,000 MT CO2e/yr was adopted for stationary source (industrial) projects.

It should be noted that projects that generate less than the above mentioned thresholds will also participate in emission reductions because air emissions, including GHGs, are under the purview of the California Air Resources Board (or other regulatory agencies) and will be "regulated" either by CARB, the Federal Government, or other entities. For example, new vehicles will be subject to increased fuel economy standards and emission reductions, large and small appliances will be subject to more strict emissions standards, and energy delivered to consumers will increasingly come from renewable sources. Other programs that are intended to reduce the overall GHG emissions include Low Carbon Fuel Standards, Renewable Portfolio standards and the Clean Car standards. As a result, even the emissions that result from projects that produce fewer emissions than the threshold will be subject to emission reductions.

Under CEQA, an individual project's GHG emissions will generally not result in direct significant impacts. This is because the climate change issue is global in nature. However, an individual project could be found to contribute to a potentially significant cumulative impact. Projects that have GHG emissions above the noted thresholds may be considered cumulatively considerable and require mitigation.

Bridge demolition activities may have negative air quality impacts, including issues surrounding proper handling, demolition, and disposal of asbestos or lead containing material. Notification requirements to the APCD will be required.

The project Site is located within the Las Tablas Creek watershed, which produced mercury primarily from Cinnabar located within sulfur mineral deposits. Mercury-containing ores are typically found along fault zones separating the Franciscan Formation from Tertiary sediments. Pyrite and marcasite are abundant in the areas surrounding the former Buena Vista and Klau mines. These minerals are known to contain naturally-occurring deposits of mercury. Inorganic mercury may pose a hazard to work personnel if it is in contact with skin or if it is inhaled. Measures regarding dust control and work personnel safety equipment and clothing can be found in the Hazards and Hazardous Materials Section of this study.

According to the SLOAPCD Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) Map for San Luis Obispo County, the project site is located in an area that has the potential to contain naturally occurring asbestos. The bedrock encountered at the site is typically sheared claystone typical of the Franciscan mélange, but also contains some thin zones and inclusions of gray-green rock that resemble serpentine. The serpentine was tested to evaluate if it contained asbestos. The test results showed that no asbestos was detected. Based on the tests, it is anticipated that no NOA will be encountered during excavation and foundation work for the project (Fugro 2013). Additionally, the existing bridge was analyzed for lead and asbestos by West Coast Safety Consultants (2011a, b). No asbestos was identified but the paint on the bridge tested positive for lead (2,100 ppm). The report concluded that all work should be conducted in compliance with the CAL-OSHA and EPA regulations (mitigation measure [HM-1] under Hazards and Hazardous Materials). The project site is not located within 1,000 feet of any sensitive receptors.

Impact. As proposed, the project will result in the temporary disturbance of approximately 1 acre (43,560 square feet). This will result in the creation of construction dust, as well as short-term vehicle emissions associated with construction activities. Based on Table 2-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook, the project will not result in an exceedance of the 2.5 ton PM_{10} quarterly threshold.

Using the GHG threshold information described in the Setting section, the project is expected to generate less than the Bright-Line Threshold of 1,150 metric tons of GHG emissions. Therefore, the project's potential direct and cumulative GHG emissions are found to be less significant and less than a cumulatively considerable contribution to GHG emissions. Section 15064(h)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines provide guidance on how to evaluate cumulative impacts. If it is shown that an incremental contribution to a cumulative impact, such as global climate change, is not 'cumulatively considerable', no mitigation is required. Because this project's emissions fall under the threshold established by the APCD, no mitigation is required.

The project is consistent with the general level of development anticipated and projected in the Clean Air Plan with the inclusion of the mitigation measures discussed below.

Note: Soil Wind Erodibility Classifications on the parcel are as follows: 4-moderate; unclassified

Per the County Environmental Health Department's recommendation, the following information has been added to this document:

Lead and Asbestos during Demolition
The bridge was sampled for both lead and asbestos. No asbestos was identified, but the paint on the bridge tested positive for lead. The Mitigated Negative Declaration notes that all work will be conducted in compliance with the CAL-OSHA and EPA regulations as per the project HM-1 mitigation measure for hazardous materials. The project site is not located within 1,000 feet of any sensitive receptors.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The project's cumulative contribution to GHG emissions is limited to construction and is relatively small and considered insignificant; therefore, no mitigation is necessary. ~~The standard County mitigation measures listed below will further reduce impacts, but they are not necessary to reduce a significant impact.~~ During the public comment period pursuant to CEQA, SLOAPCD provided additional mitigation measures (AQ-11 and AQ-12) in addition to the measures listed below. These will further reduce impacts, but they are not necessary to reduce a significant impact.

[AQ-1] Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible.

[AQ-2] Use water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. An adequate water supply source must be identified. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible.

[AQ-3] All dirt stockpile areas should be sprayed daily as needed, covered, or an APCD approved alternative method will be used.

[AQ-4] Permanent dust control measures identified in the approved project revegetation plans should be implemented as soon as possible following completion of any soil disturbing activities.

[AQ-5] Exposed ground areas that will be reworked at dates greater than one month after initial grading should be sown with a fast-germinating non-invasive grass seed and watered until vegetation is established.

[AQ-6] All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation should be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or other methods approved in advance by the APCD.

[AQ-7] All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.

[AQ-8] Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 mph on any unpaved surface at the construction site.

[AQ-9] All trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials are to be covered or should maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between top of load and top of trailer) in accordance with CVC Section 23114.

[AQ-10] The County will submit a Notification of Demolition to the APCD 10 days prior to bridge demolition activities.

[AQ-11] Prior to any construction activities at the site, the project proponent must file an NOA exemption request with APCD.

[AQ-12] Portable equipment, 50 horsepower (hp) or greater, used during construction activities may require California statewide portable equipment registration (issued by the California Air Resources Board) or an APCD permit. To minimize potential delays, prior to the start of the project, please contact the APCD Engineering Division at (805) 781-5912 for specific information regarding permitting requirements.

The following list is provided as a guide to equipment and operations that may have permitting requirements, but should not be viewed as exclusive. For a more detailed listing, refer to the Technical Appendices, page 4-4, in the APCD's 2012 CEQA Handbook.

- Power screens, conveyors, diesel engines, and/or crushers;
- Portable generators and equipment with engines that are 50 hp or greater;
- Electrical generation plants or the use of standby generator;
- Internal combustion engines;
- Rock and pavement crushing;
- Unconfined abrasive blasting operations;
- Tub grinders; and
- Trommel screens.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Result in a loss of unique or special status species or their habitats?*	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Impact wetland or riparian habitat?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Interfere with the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors, which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Conflict with any regional plans or policies to protect sensitive species, or regulations of the California Department of Fish & Wildlife or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

* Species – as defined in Section15380 of the CEQA Guidelines, which includes all plant and wildlife species that fall under the category of rare, threatened or endangered, as described in this section.

Setting. A Natural Environment Study (NES) and Biological Assessment were completed for the proposed project in April 2014 (Rincon Consultants 2014a and b) pursuant to requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These documents were referenced as a part of this initial study. The following are existing elements on the proposed project relating to potential biological concerns:

On-site Vegetation: Mixed riparian forest habitat occurs in the relative center of the project site and is adjacent to Klau Creek. The dominant tree species observed within this community include valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), California bay laurel (*Umbellularia californica*), western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), and white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*). Several shrub and vine species were observed in this community including: California coffeeberry (*Frangula californica*), California rose (*Rosa californica*), western poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), and California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*).

Most of the upland areas on the project site are composed of foothill woodland. This vegetation community occurs beyond the mixed riparian community, excluding Cypress Mountain Drive. The dominant tree species observed within this community include coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), valley oak, and foothill pine (*Pinus sabiniana*). The trees are not very densely distributed and

moderate amounts of understory typically surround each individual. The foothill woodland community onsite does not constitute a valley oak woodland type, which is recognized as a sensitive community.

The areas mapped as ruderal/developed on the project site include all of the paved or otherwise disturbed areas onsite that are associated with Cypress Mountain Drive. Non-native weedy species are the dominant plants that occur within this community including various brome grasses (*Bromus* spp.) and Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*).

Name and distance from blue line creek(s): Klau Creek mapped as a dashed-blue line stream on the Cypress Mountain, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

Habitat(s): Three terrestrial vegetation communities were identified on-site during the field survey including: mixed riparian, foothill woodland, and ruderal/developed. Habitat classification was based on the classification systems provided in *A Manual of California Vegetation*, Second Edition (Sawyer et al. 2009) and *Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Communities of California* (Holland 1986).

Jurisdictional Waters. A delineation of jurisdictional waters and riparian habitats was prepared for the project to determine the location, type, and areal extent of waters, including wetlands, and riparian habitats within the project site that would likely be subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (Rincon Consultants 2013).

No evidence of jurisdictional wetlands was observed during the site visit. Other waters subject to USACE and RWQCB jurisdiction within the project site are confined to Klau Creek.

Regional Species and Habitats of Concern: The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) Species List identified 14 sensitive plant species, one sensitive plant community and 9 sensitive wildlife taxa that have documented occurrences within a five-mile radius of the proposed project. Because the plant species and taxa lists are regional, an analysis of the range and habitat preferences of those species was conducted to identify which sensitive plant and wildlife species have the potential to occur on or around the project site.

No state or federally listed, proposed, candidate, or otherwise sensitive plant species were identified within the project site during field surveys. The project site contains suitable habitat for Eastwood's larkspur. A larkspur species (*Delphinium parryi*) was identified on the project site during field surveys conducted in May and August of 2011 but could not be identified beyond the species level. Eastwood's larkspur is considered by California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) to be moderately threatened in California. An additional survey was conducted during April of 2013 to confirm whether or not Eastwood's larkspur is present on the project site; however, the larkspur species occurrence was not detected during this subsequent survey. The larkspur species found during the 2011 surveys was located outside the area of impact.

State or federally listed, proposed, candidate, or otherwise sensitive animal species observed during field surveys include two-striped garter snake (*Thamnophis hammondii*), southern western pond turtle (*Actinemys pallida*), and California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*). In addition to these animal species, the project site and immediate vicinity has potentially suitable habitat for Coast Range newt (*Taricha torosa*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), and least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*). The trout observed in the project area during field surveys are considered to be resident rainbow trout by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and CDFW (Dave Highland, personal communication *In* Rincon Consultants 2014).

Impact. Implementation of the proposed project would result in approximately 0.75 acre of temporary impacts and 0.25 acre of permanent impacts. Temporary impacts will result from the construction of the temporary detour bridge, as well as staging and access required to construct the new bridge. The project has the potential to impact state and federal jurisdictional waters. Temporary impacts to jurisdictional areas will be required to accommodate construction activities which include a temporary

diversion as well as a temporary access road for residents, since Klau Creek is typically a perennial creek. Loss of aquatic habitat would occur as a result of construction of the new bridge and abutments, as well as the placement of rock slope protection (RSP).

Based on field surveys conducted during the appropriate blooming period, no special-status plant species were observed on or around the project site and no impacts to special-status plants are anticipated.

Temporary impacts to California red-legged frog, southern western pond turtle, Coast Range newt, and two-striped garter snake habitat would be associated with dewatering, heavy equipment operation, bridge construction, bridge demolition, and other project related disturbances.

Permanent impacts would result from installation of the proposed bridge abutments and RSP. Direct impacts to California red-legged frogs, southern western pond turtles, Coast Range newts, and two-striped garter snakes could include injury or mortality in adjacent riparian areas and uplands from construction equipment, construction debris, and worker foot traffic. However, these impacts will be mitigated with the presence of qualified biologists surveying for and moving these species outside of the project area to suitable habitat. The proposed project will also create temporary and/or permanent impacts to vegetation along the creek, which may offer shading and microhabitat temperature regulation in the channel; however, the loss of trees will be mitigated with replacement trees.

Indirect effects of construction activities, including noise and vibration, may cause California red-legged frogs, southern western pond turtles, Coast Range newts, and two-striped garter snakes to abandon habitat adjacent to work areas. This disturbance may increase the potential for predation if California red-legged frogs, southern western pond turtles, Coast Range newts, and two-striped garter snakes abandon shelter sites.

The indirect effects of erosion and sedimentation could impact California red-legged frogs, southern western pond turtles, Coast Range newts, and two-striped garter snakes. However, this will be mitigated through the use of appropriate silt/erosion controls. The removal of any encountered exotic wildlife species from Klau Creek may produce a beneficial effect by reducing predation and competition pressures for California red-legged frogs, southern western pond turtles, Coast Range newts, and two-striped garter snakes.

Nesting birds are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Various bird species, including southwestern willow flycatchers and least Bell's vireos may be disturbed and/or abandon nests if present on the existing bridge and/or nearby trees during construction activities. Preconstruction surveys would avoid and minimize impacts to southwestern willow flycatchers and least Bell's vireos and nesting birds.

The project could introduce potentially hazardous materials into the area in the form of fuel in construction equipment. A spill and clean-up kit will be stored onsite at all times. All fueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment and staging areas will occur at least 20 meters from any riparian habitat or water body. Prior to the onset of work, the County will ensure that the contractor has prepared a plan to allow a prompt and effective response to accidental spills. All workers will be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should a spill occur.

The bridge replacement activities will result in a less constricted, more open creek channel. The abutments will be placed further back on the bank of Klau Creek to accommodate the flows of Klau Creek and eliminate the need for extensive rock slope protection within the creek. Thus, the abutments of the new bridge will no longer be located below OHWM and/or within USACE jurisdictional areas. The streambed and riverine habitat will be enhanced and restored as a result of

the structure being moved out of the low-flow channel. Based on this habitat enhancement, the functional value of the project site will increase as a result of project activities.

Appropriate project timing and site dewatering would minimize potential adverse effects to these species and would reduce temporary impacts to their habitats. With the implementation of avoidance and minimization measures such as preconstruction surveys and dewatering activities, this project will have minimal, temporary effect on listed and sensitive species and their habitat. No adverse cumulative effects on biological resources are anticipated to occur as a result of this project.

A Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan has been prepared and includes specific measures for restoration and revegetation of all disturbed areas. The Plan includes protection measures, standards for revegetation, a monitoring program to ensure proper implementation and maintenance of restored areas, and performance criteria to determine success (Appendix A).

Mitigation/Conclusion. The following mitigation measures are required in order to ensure that impacts to biological resources remain less than significant.

[BR-1] Prior to construction, the County shall obtain authorization pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the CDFW for project-related impacts that will occur in areas under the jurisdiction of these regulatory agencies.

[BR-2] Access routes, staging, and construction areas shall be limited to the minimum area necessary to achieve the project goal and minimize impacts to other waters including locating access routes and construction areas outside of jurisdictional areas to the maximum extent feasible.

[BR-3] To control sedimentation during and after project implementation, appropriate best management practices shall be implemented to minimize adverse effects on jurisdictional areas in the vicinity of the project.

[BR-4] In-stream work shall take place between May 1 and November 1 in any given year, when water levels in the creek are lowest.

[BR-5] During construction, litter and/or construction debris shall be picked up daily and properly disposed of at an appropriate site.

[BR-6] All project-generated debris, building materials, and rubbish shall be removed from Klau Creek and from areas where such materials could be washed into the creek.

[BR-7] Raw cement, concrete or washings thereof, asphalt, paint or other coating material, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances which could be hazardous to fish or wildlife resulting from project-related activities, shall be prevented from contaminating the soil and/or entering Klau Creek.

[BR-8] Upon completion of construction activities, any diversions or barriers to flow shall be removed in a manner that would allow flow to resume with the least amount of disturbance to the jurisdictional areas. Alteration of the jurisdictional areas shall be minimized to the maximum extent

possible; any imported materials shall be removed from the stream bed upon completion of the project.

[BR-9] All refueling, maintenance, and staging of equipment and vehicles shall occur at least 60 feet from riparian habitat or bodies of water and in a location where a potential spill would not drain directly toward aquatic habitat (e.g., on a slope that drains away from the water source). If it is not possible to stage vehicles at least 60 feet from riparian habitat, then spill prevention BMPs must be in place and/or be onsite and readily accessbile. The monitor shall ensure that contamination of suitable habitat does not occur during such operations. Prior to the onset of work activities, a plan must be in place for prompt and effective response to any accidental spills. All workers shall be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should an accidental spill occur.

[BR-10] The Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) prepared for the project provides for a 1:1 restoration ratio for temporary impacts and a 3:1 enhancement ratio for permanent impacts. The HMMP identifies the specific mitigation areas. The HMMP will be implemented immediately following project completion. The project HMMP shall utilize native riparian plant species that currently occur in the project area. All trees with a diameter at breast height DBH of four (4) inches or greater will be replaced at a 3:1 ratio, except for trees 24-inches or greater, which will be replaced at a 10:1 ratio.

[BR-11] To minimize impacts to the mixed riparian habitat, removal of mixed riparian habitat shall be limited to the minimum necessary to complete the project.

[BR-12] The spread or introduction of invasive exotic plant species will be avoided to the maximum extent possible. When practicable, invasive exotic plants in the project site shall be removed and properly disposed.

[BR-13] During construction, the project will make all reasonable efforts to limit the use of imported soils for fill. Soils currently existing on-site should be used for fill material. If the use of imported fill material is necessary, the imported material must be obtained from a source that is known to be free of invasive plant species; or the material must consist of purchased clean material such as crushed aggregate, sorted rock, or similar. Imported fill material or aggregate material must come from a surface mine permitted under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975, Pub Res Code § 2710 et seq., or from a source not subject to this act.

[BR-14] To avoid the spread of invasive species, the contractor shall:

A. Stockpile topsoil and redeposit the stockpiled soil on the slopes after construction of the new bridge is complete; or
B. Transport the topsoil to a certified landfill for disposal.
C. All erosion control materials including straw wattles or mulch used on-site must be free of invasive species seed.

[BR-15] If detected during preconstruction surveys, the larkspur species

occurrence identified in 2011 shall be designated on the project plans as an environmentally sensitive area (ESA) to avoid adverse impacts to a potentially rare plant. ESA fencing shall be placed around the perimeter of the occurrence during construction to avoid any potential impacts.

[BR-16] If deemed necessary, Caltrans will consult with the USFWS to address potential impacts to listed species.

[BR-17] Prior to the onset of project activities, a qualified biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys for California red-legged frog, southern western pond turtle, Coast Range newt, two-striped garter snake, southwestern willow flycatchers, and least Bell's vireo.

[BR-18] Prior to the onset of project activities, a qualified biologist will conduct a training session for all construction personnel. At a minimum, the training will include a description of the California red-legged frog, southern western pond turtle, Coast Range newt, two-striped garter snake, southwestern willow flycatchers, and least Bell's vireo and their habitat, the specific measures that are being implemented to conserve these species for the current project, and the boundaries within which the project may be accomplished. Brochures, books, and briefings may be used in the training session, provided that a qualified person is on hand to answer any questions.

[BR-19] A qualified biologist will be present at the work site until all California red-legged frog, southern western pond turtle, Coast Range newt, and two-striped garter snakes have been relocated out of harm's way, workers have been instructed, and disturbance of habitat has been completed. After this time, the County will train and designate a person to monitor on-site compliance with all minimization measures.

[BR-20] No pets shall be allowed at the project site.

[BR-21] If any southwestern willow flycatchers or least Bell's vireo are found during preconstruction surveys, Caltrans shall be notified immediately for authorization to continue to work. Work shall not continue without approval from the USFWS.

[BR-22] If feasible, removal of trees will be scheduled to occur in the fall and winter (between September 1 and February 14), after fledging and before the initiation of the nesting season.

[BR-23] If construction activities are scheduled to occur during the nesting season (February 15 through August 31), a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist throughout all areas of potentially suitable and accessible habitats within 200 feet of any proposed construction activities. The pre-construction nesting bird survey will be performed no more than two weeks prior to construction to determine the presence/absence of nesting birds within the project area.

[BR-24] Caltrans shall be immediately notified if any nesting bird species protected under federal law [including the MBTA] are observed during surveys. Caltrans shall coordinate with USFWS regarding appropriate

avoidance measures and the County shall coordinate with CDFW regarding appropriate avoidance measures. Work activities shall be avoided within 100 feet of active passerine nests and 200 feet of active raptor nests until young birds have fledged and left the nest(s). Readily visible exclusion zones shall be established in areas where nests must be avoided. Nests, eggs, or young of birds covered by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code would not be moved or disturbed until the end of the nesting season or until young fledge, whichever is later, nor would adult birds be killed, injured, or harassed at any time.

[BR-25] If a work site is to be temporarily dewatered by pumping, intakes will be completely screened with wire mesh not larger than 0.2 inch to prevent California red-legged frogs from entering the pump system.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Disturb archaeological resources?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Disturb historical resources?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Disturb paleontological resources?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project is located in an area historically occupied by the Obispeno Chumash and Salinan. No historic structures are present. The project is within 300 feet of a blue line creek.

Impact. Applied Earthworks conducted an archaeological survey of the project area and discovered a prehistoric chert quarry with associated lithic scatter within the Area of Potential Effects of the proposed project and cultural materials were observed within the Area of Direct Impact. Applied Earthworks completed Extended Phase I and Phase II test excavations at the site (Applied Earthworks April 2014) to assess the nature of archaeological deposits within the Area of Direct Impact and evaluate site significance according to the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places.

The Extended Phase I and Phase II investigations encountered deposits of prehistoric lithic material including flaked stone debitage, hammerstones, bifaces, and cores. However, these materials are located well upslope and outside the Area of Direct Impact and would not be affected by the proposed bridge replacement. Impacts to archaeological or paleontological resources are not expected.

The Archaeological Evaluation Report recorded and evaluated one prehistoric archaeological site within the Area of Potential Effects. However, it was determined that the manufacturing techniques associated with these lithic materials are not unique or unusual in their own right, and that the cultural materials recovered from the Area of Direct Impact are clearly peripheral to the site proper and likely were transported by colluvial action. Therefore, the Archaeological Evaluation Report determined that the site does not contain significant data potential and does not qualify for the National Register of Historic Places under any criteria; thus, no historic properties will be affected by the replacement of the Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge. Impacts to historical resources are not expected.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant cultural resource impacts are expected to occur, and no

mitigation measures are necessary.

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Be within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo" Earthquake Fault Zone", or other known fault zones?*	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Include structures located on expansive soils?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

* Per Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication #42

Setting. The following relates to the project's geologic aspects or conditions:

Topography: Nearly level to steeply sloping

Within County's Geologic Study Area?: Yes due to landslide risk

Landslide Risk Potential: High

Liquefaction Potential: Low

Nearby potentially active faults?: Yes Distance? Oceanic Fault is 3.5 miles from the project site

Area known to contain serpentine or ultramafic rock or soils?: No

Shrink/Swell potential of soil: Low

Other notable geologic features? None

Impact. As proposed, the project will result in the temporary disturbance of approximately 0.75 acre and the permanent disturbance of approximately 0.25 acre. According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey, soils on the project site are Los-Osos-Lodo Complex, 50-75%

slopes. Because the project site is within a Geologic Study Area due to its high risk of landslides, the proposed project is required to submit a geology and soils report (LUO Section 22.14.070). A foundation report was prepared for the project based on geotechnical borings that were conducted at the project site (Fugro Consultants, Inc. 2013). A large landslide is present on the south facing hillside upstream and adjacent to the north abutment of the existing bridge. A line of bedrock outrcrops extending northwest from the north abutment of the existing bridge defines the easterly extent of the landslide feature. The report concludes that slides are beyond the scope of the current project since the existing bridge has not been impacted by slides. The report states that the two soils units found at the project site are not considered to be susceptible to liquefaction or seismic settlement, and that no special mitigation or considerations are needed for the design of the new bridge. Exposed soil could be subject to erosion and sedimentation during construction activities. The project site is 0.89 mile west of the nearest mapped location of serpentine. No serpentine was discovered within the site during field exploration and laboratory testing to characterize the subsurface conditions (Fugro Consultants, Inc. 2013).

A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (LUO Sec. 22.52.120, CZLUO Sec. 23.05.036) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts. No new buildings or major underground utilities are proposed as a part of the project; therefore, mitigation is not warranted above and beyond the mitigation measures under the Air Quality and Biological Resources sections relating to dust and erosion control (AQ-1, BR-2, BR-3). The proposed project would not affect mineral extraction.

Mitigation/Conclusion.
No significant impacts to Geology and Soils were identified; therefore, no mitigation measures are necessary.

7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) ***Create a hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?***	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) ***Create a hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?***	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) ***Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within ¼-mile of an existing or proposed school?***	☐	☐	☐	☒

7. HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
d) Be located on, or adjacent to, a site which is included on a list of hazardous material/waste sites compiled pursuant to Gov't Code 65962.5 ("Cortese List"), and result in an adverse public health condition?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Impair implementation or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) If within the Airport Review designation, or near a private airstrip, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high wildland fire hazard conditions?	☐	☐	☒	☐
h) Be within a 'very high' fire hazard severity zone?	☐	☐	☒	☐
i) Be within an area classified as a 'state responsibility' area as defined by CalFire?	☐	☐	☒	☐
j) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project is located in a "very high" Fire Hazard Severity Zone (SLO County, 2007); however, Cal Fire's Las Tablas Station is located approximately 4.9 miles from the project site and response time is approximately 15 minutes. Klau Creek Bridge is not in a dam inundation zone (SLO County, 2009) and is not located in an airport safety zone.

The project site is located in the southern portion of the Santa Lucia Mountain Range. The Santa Lucia Range contains over 200 inactive mines. The California Central Coast region has had a rich and varied metal mining history originating with indigenous tribes, and continuing until approximately the mid-1970s. Metals mined in the region include, but are not limited to, mercury, chromium, copper, nickel, and iron. The project site is approximately 1 mile from the Klau/Buena Vista Mine, a Superfund site. The Klau/Buena Vista Mine consists of two abandoned mercury mine sites (Klau and Buena Vista) that are located on adjacent properties. The main concern for this site is the effect of mercury contamination from the mining operations on targets such as fisheries and recreational users of the Las Tablas watershed.

A Soil Assessment Activities report was prepared by Padre Associates, Inc. (Padre 2013) which concluded that background levels of mercury are found within the soils of the project site and the surrounding area. Based on their analysis, Padre recommends using a reference level of 0.666 mg/kg for mercury to determine suitability of soil reuse onsite. Insofar as levels do not exceed 0.666 mg/kg, excavated soils are safe to reuse on-site. The project will include regular sampling of soil and air during construction. In addition to mercury being present within the soils at the project site, the project is located in an area that could contain *Coccidiodes*, fungal spores present in soil which are

commonly found in dry, low rainfall areas. The fungus can cause Valley Fever if one becomes infected. If present, the fungus could become airborne through soil disturbance by wind or by mechanical means. Therefore, measures focusing on the control of airborne particles, including dust, will be implemented. Padre also prepared a Soil Management Requirements Report for the project to ensure that: a) excavated soil associated with construction activities is managed appropriately; and b) the risk to construction personnel and off-site receptors is minimized (Padre 2014). Padre's report includes an Occupation Hazard Assessment (OHA) prepared by an Industrial Hygiene Specialist as an appendix which determines the appropriate level of personal protective equipment for workers during project site activities. The Soil Management Requirements Report and OHA contain measures to control airborne dust concentrations to limit the potential exposure of workers and offsite receptors to inorganic mercury and fungal spores. During the course of soil excavation activities at Cypress Mountain Drive, dust suppression techniques will be implemented. The report also includes measures to prevent heat illness.

The existing bridge was analyzed for lead and asbestos by West Coast Safety Consultants (2011a, b). No asbestos was identified but the paint on the bridge tested positive for lead (2,100 ppm). The report concluded that all work should be conducted in compliance with the CAL-OSHA and EPA regulations.

The project site is not hazardous waste facilities, land designated as hazardous waste property, hazardous waste disposal sites, or is subject to the Hazardous Waste Substances Statement required under subsection (f) of Government Code Section 65962.5 (known as the "Cortese List"). The project site is approximately 1 mile from the Klau/Buena Vista Mine Site which is on the "Cortese List."

Impact. The proposed project is not found on the 'Cortese List' (which is a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5). The project does not present a significant fire safety risk. The project is not expected to conflict with any regional emergency response or evacuation plan.

The proposed project will not create a substantial hazard to public health and safety. During construction activities, the road will remain closed to through traffic. A temporary bridge will be in place for residential traffic outside of work hours (5 pm to 7 am and weekends). Work personnel will be required to follow personal protective equipment recommendations found in Padre's 2014 Soil Management Requirements Report, as listed below. Potential health and safety concerns will be minimized by adherence to site procedures, federal and state regulations, and permit conditions to a point where impacts are not significant.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The following mitigation measures will ensure that impacts to Hazards and Hazardous Materials are less than significant:

[HM-1] All work will be conducted in compliance with the CAL-OSHA and EPA regulations;

[HM-2] The project site will be closed to through traffic during soil disturbance activities that could result in airborne dust to prevent exposure of inorganic mercury and Valley Fever to motorists;

[HM-3] Soil excavated for the project site shall be stockpiled on plastic sheeting to allow for material sampling and laboratory analysis to ensure that mercury levels do not exceed 0.666 mg/kg. In the event that mercury levels exceed said threshold, soils will be disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations related to hazardous material disposal;

[HM-4] Excavation areas and excavated materials shall be thoroughly wetted to prevent the creation of airborne dust;

[HM-5] Construction personnel protective clothing shall include long-sleeved shirts, steel-toed boots, gloves, and safety glasses. Work clothes shall be changed before leaving the project site and cleaned before reuse;

[HM-6] The County or its contractor shall inspect the project site for animal burrows prior to construction activities. If animal burrows are discovered, the area shall be thoroughly wetted to prevent the release of Valley Fever fungal spores;

[HM-7] Track-out control devices (ex. Rumble-strips, tire brushes, etc.) shall be used to prevent offsite transport of contaminated soil;

[HM-8] Before any construction activities begin on the project, a training session for all construction personnel shall be held to information them of the potential hazards found on the project site, potential exposure routes, personal protective equipment, Valley Fever causes and symptoms, and heat illness symptoms and prevention;

[HM-9] During the course of soil excavation activities at Cypress Mountain Drive, dust suppression techniques will be implemented; and

[HM-10] Construction personnel exposure to dust should be minimized. Exposure prevention methods shall be instituted including on-site dust level monitoring and provision of appropriate respiratory protection to workers.

8. NOISE

Will the project:	**Potentially Significant**	**Impact can & will be mitigated**	**Insignificant Impact**	**Not Applicable**
a) Expose people to noise levels that exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Generate permanent increases in the ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Cause a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise in the project vicinity?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Expose people to severe noise or vibration?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) If located within the Airport Review designation or adjacent to a private airstrip, expose people residing or working in the project area to severe noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. County Noise Element thresholds are determined using the average sound level during a 24-hour day, or L_{DN}. The L_{DN} is expressed in terms of A-weighted decibels (dB), which de-emphasizes the very low and very high frequencies of sound in a manner similar to the human ear. The County threshold for exterior noise exposure is 60 dB near the following land uses: Residential, Public Assembly & Entertainment, Bed and Breakfast Facilities, Hotels, Motels, Schools, Libraries and Museums, Hospitals, Nursing and Personal Care, Meeting Halls, Churches, and Offices. The threshold for Outdoor Sports and Recreation land use is 70 dB.

The Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge is located in a rural area of unincorporated San Luis Obispo County. There are no residences located in the vicinity of the bridge and surrounding land uses are primarily open space. Intermittent roadway noise is the primary source of noise in the project area. It is not expected that County noise standards will be exceeded as a result of the project. The following is one of the exceptions to the Noise Standards from the LUO: Noise sources associated with construction provided such activities do not take place before 7 a.m. or after 9 p.m. on any day except Saturday or Sunday, or before 8 a.m. or after 5 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday. The County will abide by this time-frame during all project activities. Additionally, pile driving will not be used as a method of construction for this project. The project is not expected to conflict with the surrounding uses.

Impact. Project activities would generate a temporary noise level increase in the vicinity of the project demolition and construction activities. However, there are no sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the bridge site, and the increase in noise would be temporary. Therefore, impacts to noise levels in exceedance of County thresholds or exposure of people to severe noise or vibration would be less than significant.

The existing use and operation of the bridge site would remain unchanged. Therefore, there would be no permanent increase in ambient noise for adjoining areas. There would be no operational noise impacts.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

9. POPULATION/HOUSING ***Will the project:***	**Potentially Significant**	**Impact can & will be mitigated**	**Insignificant Impact**	**Not Applicable**
a) Induce substantial growth in an area either directly (e.g., construct new homes or businesses) or indirectly (e.g., extension of major infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Displace existing housing or people, requiring construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Create the need for substantial new housing in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge over Klau Creek is located in a rural area of unincorporated San Luis Obispo County. There are no residences located in the immediate vicinity of the bridge and surrounding land uses are primarily open space.

Impact. The proposed project would not affect population or housing because no housing units would be constructed. The proposed project would consist of demolition and construction of a bridge. The proposed project would not result in the demand for any new housing, would not displace existing any housing, or result in population growth. Energy and fuel consumption would not change, as the operation of the proposed project would remain the same. Impacts to population and housing are not applicable to the proposed project.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures would be necessary.

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/UTILITIES *Will the project have an effect upon, or result in the need for new or altered public services in any of the following areas:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Police protection (e.g., Sheriff, CHP)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Schools?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Roads?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Solid Wastes?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The project area is served by the following public services/facilities:

Police: County Sheriff Location: Templeton

Fire: Cal Fire (formerly CDF) Hazard Severity: Very High Response Time: 15-20 minutes

Location: 275 Cypress Mountain Drive, approximately 4 miles north of the project site

School District: Paso Robles

Impact. The project is located in a "very high" Fire Hazard Severity Zone (SLO County 2007); however, Cal Fire's Las Tablas Station is located approximately 4.9 miles from the project site and response time is approximately 15 minutes. The proposed project would have no effect on police, fire, schools, or other public services and would not result in the need for new services or facilities as no new structures would be built, access via the a temporary crossing would allow emergency vehicle access, and there would be no increase in population or traffic. Additionally, the approved detour plan will be routed to Cal Fire for review. Operational use of the bridge site would remain the same once construction activities are complete. The proposed project involves replacement of a deficient bridge, and would therefore improve that safety for the public using this portion of Cypress Mountain Drive.

Refer to the Transportation/Circulation section for more information on alternate vehicle routes during daytime construction activities that could result in airborne dust.

The proposed project would generate debris. However, all project-generated debris, building materials, and rubbish will be picked up daily and properly disposed of at the appropriate site. Any potentially hazardous material would be tested and/or hauled to an appropriate facility, per Padre's 2014 Soil Management Requirement Report. Impacts to solid waste services would be less than significant.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures would be necessary.

11. RECREATION

	Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	*Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?*	☐	☐	☐	☒
b)	*Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?*	☐	☐	☒	☐
c)	*Other* _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge is located on Cypress Mountain Drive in rural San Luis Obispo County and is adjacent to open space. Cypress Mountain Drive is sometimes used as a bicycle trail.

Impact. Project activities would involve replacement of an existing bridge. The project is not proposed in a location that will affect any trail, park, recreational resource, coastal access, and/or Natural Area. In addition, the proposed project activities would be temporary, and associated with the demolition of the old bridge and the construction of the new bridge. Impacts to trail access are not anticipated as a result of the project.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures would be necessary.

12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION

	Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	*Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system?*	☐	☐	☒	☐
b)	*Reduce existing "Level of Service" on public roadway(s)?*	☐	☐	☒	☐
c)	*Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance, slow vehicles)?*	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	*Provide for adequate emergency access?*	☐	☐	☐	☒
e)	*Conflict with an established measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system considering all modes of transportation (e.g. LOS, mass transit, etc.)?*	☐	☐	☒	☐
f)	*Conflict with an applicable congestion management program?*	☐	☐	☒	☐

12. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
h) Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☒	☐
i) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. The Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge is located on Cypress Mountain Road, which is lightly traveled road operating at acceptable levels. Cypress Mountain Road is considered a Collector road according to the Adelaida Planning Area Circulation Map. Traffic along Cypress Mountain Drive is infrequent (approximately 100 average daily trips) and is currently used by nearby residents and visitors to the 7X Ranch, a youth camp located south of the project site. The proposed project would involve replacing a bridge that is considered structurally deficient.

Impact. Project activities would result in a minor, temporary increase in roadway traffic at the bridge sites due to worker trips. Worker trips would include ten to twenty trips per day over a four month period, which would not affect any of the roadway capacities or levels of service. Off-street parking has been designated near the site for worker vehicles to avoid disruption of roadway operations during project activities. Project activities would include construction of a temporary crossing through the creek on the east site of the existing bridge until construction of the new bridge is complete. Although through traffic would only be permitted after daily construction activities that could result in airborne dust have ceased, the temporary crossing would be available for emergency access. During construction activities that could result in airborne dust, traffic on either side of the bridge will be rerouted using an approved detour plan. Notification to nearby residents would occur ahead of any road closures. The proposed project activities would be temporary, lasting approximately four months. Temporary traffic impacts during construction would be less than significant.

Operation of the existing bridge sites would not change; therefore, there would be no long-term impact to roadway operations, parking, internal circulation, or air traffic, and operational use would be consistent with the existing County Land Use Plan and related policies.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant traffic impacts were identified, and no mitigation measures above what are already required by ordinance are necessary.

13. WASTEWATER *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, day-lighting)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

13. WASTEWATER *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
c) Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting/Impact. The project involves replacing an existing bridge which is not anticipated to generate waste or wastewater or adversely affect wastewater facilities and solid waste capacity. A portable chemical toilet will be available for use by construction crews. No impacts resulting from wastewater would occur as a result of the project.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

14. WATER & HYDROLOGY *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
QUALITY				
a) Violate any water quality standards?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, sediment, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogen-loading, etc.)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?	☐	☐	☐	☒
QUANTITY				
h) Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?	☐	☐	☐	☒

14. WATER & HYDROLOGY *Will the project:*	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
i) Adversely affect community water service provider?	☐	☐	☐	☒
j) Expose people to a risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding (e.g., dam failure,etc.), or inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒
k) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting. Water quality within Klau Creek may be impacted by proposed construction activities including implementation of the creek diversion and dewatering plan and removal of the existing bridge. As discussed above under Hazards and Hazardous Materials, the Project will temporarily introduce potentially hazardous materials into the area in the form of fuel in construction equipment. However, a spill and clean-up kit will be stored onsite at all times and all fueling and maintenance of vehicles and other equipment and staging areas will occur at least 20 meters from any riparian habitat or water body. Measures to control dust will be implemented as well (HM-1 – HM-9).

The topography of the project is gently rolling The closest creek from the proposed project is on site. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the soil surface is considered to have moderate erodibility.

Temporary and permanent erosion control measures will be implemented during and after construction activities are complete (BR-3 & BR-10). Other measures to protect water quality include obtaining regulatory permits prior to construction, limiting access routes and construction areas to the minimum area necessary, staging a minimum of 60 feet from the waterway, and preventing construction-related materials from washing into the creek (BR-1, -2, -6, -7, & -9).

The construction of the proposed bridge will improve the capacity of flow over that of the existing bridge as well as meet the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) criteria of passing the 50-year flood and the 100-year flood. The proposed bridge will have a soffit elevation of approximately 1140.90, which would be roughly 13.8 feet above the current creek thalweg.

Projects involving more than one acre of disturbance are subject to preparing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to minimize on-site sedimentation and erosion. When work is done in the rainy season, the County's Land Use Ordinance requires that temporary erosion and sedimentation measures to be installed.

DRAINAGE – The following relates to the project's drainage aspects:

Within the 100-year Flood Hazard designation? No

Closest creek? Klau Creek runs through the project site Distance? On site

Soil drainage characteristics: Well drained

SEDIMENTATION AND EROSION – Soil type, area of disturbance, and slopes are key aspects to analyzing potential sedimentation and erosion issues. The project's soil types and descriptions are listed in the previous Agriculture section under "Setting". As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the project's soil erodibility is as follows:

Soil erodibility: Moderate

A sedimentation and erosion control plan is required for all construction and grading projects (LUO Sec. 22.52.120, CZLUO Sec. 23.05.036) to minimize these impacts. When required, the plan is prepared by a civil engineer to address both temporary and long-term sedimentation and erosion impacts.

Impact – Water Quality/Hydrology

With regards to project impacts on water quality the following conditions apply:

- ✓ The project will be disturbing 1 acre and will be required to prepare a SWPPP, which will be implemented during construction;
- ✓ The project will be subject to standard County requirements for drainage, sedimentation and erosion control for construction and permanent use;
- ✓ The project is not on highly erodible soils, nor on moderate to steep slopes;
- ✓ The project is not within a 100-year Flood Hazard designation;
- ✓ Stockpiles will be properly managed during construction to avoid material loss due to erosion;
- ✓ All hazardous materials and/or wastes will be properly stored on-site, which include secondary containment should spills or leaks occur;

The project could result in water quality impacts through dewatering activities, the discharge of sediments during construction, or the accidental spill of petroleum-based fuels or lubricants. The project will not affect groundwater levels. Dewatering and diversion activities would be localized and are not anticipated to impact groundwater in Las Tablas Creek watershed since most of the water would be returned to the stream via the proposed diversion.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Degradation to water quality within Klau Creek before and during construction activities would be mitigated by the implementation of a dewatering and diversion plan, mitigation and monitoring plan, best management practices to prevent erosion/sedimentation, and the County is required to obtain a permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board prior to commencement of site disturbance (Mitigation Measures BR-1, BR-3, BR-4, and BR-6 through BR-9). Based on the discussion above and implementation of all recommended mitigation measures, all onsite, off-site, direct, in-direct, and cumulative hydrology and water quality impacts associated with the proposed project are less than significant.

15. LAND USE ***Will the project:***	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
a) Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [County Land Use Element and Ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

15. LAND USE

Will the project:

	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
c) Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Other: _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Setting/Impact. Surrounding uses are identified on Page 2 of the Initial Study. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, Local Coastal Plan, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies to review for policy consistencies (e.g., APCD, Agricultural Commissioner, Environmental Health, etc.). The project was found to be consistent with these policies (refer also to Exhibit A on reference documents used).

The project is not within or adjacent to a Habitat Conservation Plan area. The project is consistent or compatible with the surrounding uses as summarized on page 2 of this Initial Study.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No inconsistencies were identified and therefore no additional measures above what will already be required were determined necessary.

16. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Will the project:

	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☒	☐

For further information on CEQA or the county's environmental review process, please visit the County's web site at "www.sloplanning.org" under "Environmental Information", or the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System at: http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines for information about the California Environmental Quality Act.

Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning Department has contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an ☒) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

Contacted	Agency	Response
☐	County Public Works Department	**Not Applicable**
☒	County Environmental Health Division	**In File**~~None~~**
☒	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	**None**
☐	County Airport Manager	**Not Applicable**
☐	Airport Land Use Commission	**Not Applicable**
☒	Air Pollution Control District	**In File****
☐	County Sheriff's Department	**Not Applicable**
☒	Regional Water Quality Control Board	**None**
☐	CA Coastal Commission	**Not Applicable**
☒	CA Department of Fish and Wildlife	**None**
☐	CA Department of Forestry (Cal Fire)	**Not Applicable**
☐	CA Department of Transportation	**Not Applicable**
☐	Community Services District	**Not Applicable**
☒	Other Army Corps of Engineers (San Francisco)	**None**
☐	Other _____	**Not Applicable**

*** "No comment" or "No concerns"-type responses are usually not attached*

The following checked ("☒") reference materials have been used in the environmental review for the proposed project and are hereby incorporated by reference into the Initial Study. The following information is available at the County Planning and Building Department.

☒ Project File for the Subject Application

County documents

- ☐ Coastal Plan Policies
- ☐ Framework for Planning (Coastal/Inland)
- ☒ General Plan (Inland/Coastal), includes all maps/elements; more pertinent elements:
  - ☒ Agriculture Element
  - ☒ Conservation & Open Space Element
  - ☐ Economic Element
  - ☐ Housing Element
  - ☒ Noise Element
  - ☐ Parks & Recreation Element/Project List
  - ☒ Safety Element
- ☐ Land Use Ordinance (Inland/Coastal)
- ☐ Building and Construction Ordinance
- ☐ Public Facilities Fee Ordinance
- ☐ Real Property Division Ordinance
- ☐ Affordable Housing Fund
- ☐ Airport Land Use Plan
- ☐ Energy Wise Plan
- ☐ Area Plan
  - ☐ Design Plan
  - ☐ Specific Plan
- ☐ Annual Resource Summary Report
- ☐ Circulation Study

Other documents

- ☒ Clean Air Plan/APCD Handbook
- ☒ Regional Transportation Plan
- ☒ Uniform Fire Code
- ☒ Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast Basin – Region 3)
- ☒ Archaeological Resources Map
- ☒ Area of Critical Concerns Map
- ☐ Special Biological Importance Map
- ☒ CA Natural Species Diversity Database
- ☒ Fire Hazard Severity Map
- ☒ Flood Hazard Maps
- ☒ Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey for SLO County
- ☒ GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams, contours, etc.)
- ☐ Other

and Update EIR

In addition, the following project specific information and/or reference materials have been considered as a part of the Initial Study:

Applied Earthworks. 2014. Archaeological Evaluation Report for CA-SLO-2745 (P-42-002745) Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement Project, San Luis Obispo County, California. April 2014.

CAL FIRE, San Luis Obispo County Fire Department. Fire Stations. March 2012. Accessed online: http://www.calfireslo.org/operationsstations.html

California Air Pollution Control Officers Association. 2008. CEQA and Climate Change: Addressing Climate Change through California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). January 2008.

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA). 2010. Climate Action Team Biennial Report. Final Report. April 2010.

Fugro Consultants, Inc. 2013. Foundation Report Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement Over Klau Creek (Bridge No. 49C-0033) Federal Aid No. BRLO-5949(127) San Luis Obispo County, California. Prepared for San Luis Obispo County. 56 pp.

Holland, R.F., 1986. Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California. California Department of Fish and Game. Sacramento, California.

Padre Associates, Inc. 2013. Report of Findings, Soil Assessment Activities, Klau Creek Bridge Replacement Project, Cypress Mountain Drive, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County, California. Prepared for San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department. 60 pp.

Padre Associates, Inc. 2014. Soil Management Requirements Report, Klau Creek Bridge Replacement Project, Cypress Mountain Drive, Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County, California. Prepared for San Luis Obispo County Public Works Department. 48 pp.

Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2013. Delineation of Jurisdictional Waters and Riparian Habitats, Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Highway Bridge Replacement Project. November 2013.

Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2014a. Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Highway Bridge Replacement Project Natural Environment Study. April 2014. 132 pp.

Rincon Consultants, Inc. 2014b. Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Highway Bridge Replacement Project Biological Assessment. April 2014. 66 pp.

San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District. 2012. CEQA Air Quality Handbook: A Guide for Assessing the Impacts for Projects Subject to CEQA Review. April 2012.

San Luis Obispo, County of, Sheriff's Office. SLO County Sheriff's Offices. March 2012. Accessed online: http://www.slosheriff.org/_Contact/Department.aspx

San Luis Obispo, County of. General Plan, Natural Hazard Maps, Fire Hazard Severity Map, November 2007. Accessed online: http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/zoning/Map_Image_Download_Center/Natural_Hazard_Maps.htm

San Luis Obispo, County of. General Plan, Natural Hazard Maps, Dam Failure Inundation Areas, April 2009. Accessed online:

http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/zoning/Map_Image_Download_Center/Natural_Hazard_Maps.htm

San Luis Obispo, County of. General Plan, Natural Hazard Maps, Earthquake Hazards Map April 2009. Accessed online: http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/zoning/Map_Image_Download_Center/Natural_Hazard_Maps.htm

San Luis Obispo, County of. General Plan, Natural Hazard Maps, FEMA-FIRM Flood Hazard Map, August 2008. Accessed online: http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/zoning/Map_Image_Download_Center/Natural_Hazard_Maps.htm

Sawyer, J. et al. 2009. A Manual of California Vegetation, Second Edition. California Native Plant Society Press. Sacramento, California.

West Coast Safety Consultants. 2011a. Asbestos Inspection – Klau Creek Bridge, Cypress Mountain Drive, Paso Robles, California. 2 pp.

West Coast Safety Consultants. 2011b. Lead Inspection – Klau Creek Bridge, Cypress Mountain Drive, Paso Robles, California. 6 pp.

Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary Table

Per Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the following measures also constitute the mitigation monitoring and/or reporting program that will reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels. These measures will become conditions of approval (COAs) should the project be approved. The Lead Agency (County) or other Responsible Agencies, as specified in the following measures, are responsible to verify compliance with these COAs.

AIR QUALITY

[AQ-1] Reduce the amount of the disturbed area where possible.

[AQ-2] Use water trucks or sprinkler systems in sufficient quantities to prevent airborne dust from leaving the site. An adequate water supply source must be identified. Increased watering frequency would be required whenever wind speeds exceed 15 mph. Reclaimed (non-potable) water should be used whenever possible.

[AQ-3] All dirt stockpile areas should be sprayed daily as needed, covered, or an APCD approved alternative method will be used.

[AQ-4] Permanent dust control measures identified in the approved project revegetation plans should be implemented as soon as possible following completion of any soil disturbing activities.

[AQ-5] Exposed ground areas that will be reworked at dates greater than one month after initial grading should be sown with a fast-germinating non-invasive grass seed and watered until vegetation is established.

[AQ-6] All disturbed soil areas not subject to revegetation should be stabilized using approved chemical soil binders, jute netting, or other methods approved in advance by the APCD.

[AQ-7] All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, etc. to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.

[AQ-8] Vehicle speed for all construction vehicles shall not exceed 15 mph on any unpaved surface at the construction site.

[AQ-9] All trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials are to be covered or should maintain at least two feet of freeboard (minimum vertical distance between top of load and top of trailer) in accordance with CVC Section 23114.

[AQ-10] The County will submit a Notification of Demolition to the APCD 10 days prior to bridge demolition activities.

[AQ-11] Prior to any construction activities at the site, the project proponent must file an NOA exemption request with APCD.

[AQ-12] Portable equipment, 50 horsepower (hp) or greater, used during construction activities may require California statewide portable equipment registration (issued by the California Air Resources Board) or an APCD permit. To minimize potential delays,

prior to the start of the project, please contact the APCD Engineering Division at (805) 781-5912 for specific information regarding permitting requirements.

The following list is provided as a guide to equipment and operations that may have permitting requirements, but should not be viewed as exclusive. For a more detailed listing, refer to the Technical Appendices, page 4-4, in the APCD's 2012 CEQA Handbook.

- Power screens, conveyors, diesel engines, and/or crushers;
- Portable generators and equipment with engines that are 50 hp or greater;
- Electrical generation plants or the use of standby generator;
- Internal combustion engines;
- Rock and pavement crushing;
- Unconfined abrasive blasting operations;
- Tub grinders; and
- Trommel screens.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

[BR-1] Prior to construction, the County shall obtain authorization pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the CDFW for project-related impacts that will occur in areas under the jurisdiction of these regulatory agencies.

[BR-2] Access routes, staging, and construction areas shall be limited to the minimum area necessary to achieve the project goal and minimize impacts to other waters including locating access routes and construction areas outside of jurisdictional areas to the maximum extent feasible.

[BR-3] To control sedimentation during and after project implementation, appropriate best management practices shall be implemented to minimize adverse effects on jurisdictional areas in the vicinity of the project.

[BR-4] In-stream work shall take place between May 1 and November 1 in any given year, when water levels in the creek are lowest.

[BR-5] During construction, litter and/or construction debris shall be picked up daily and properly disposed of at an appropriate site.

[BR-6] All project-generated debris, building materials, and rubbish shall be removed from Klau Creek and from areas where such materials could be washed into the creek.

[BR-7] Raw cement, concrete or washings thereof, asphalt, paint or other coating material, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances which could be hazardous to fish or wildlife resulting from project-related activities, shall be prevented from contaminating the soil and/or entering Klau Creek.

[BR-8] Upon completion of construction activities, any diversions or barriers to flow shall be removed in a manner that would allow flow to resume with the least amount of disturbance to the jurisdictional areas. Alteration of the jurisdictional areas shall be minimized to the maximum extent possible; any imported materials shall be removed from the stream bed upon completion of the project.

[BR-9] All refueling, maintenance, and staging of equipment and vehicles shall occur at least 60 feet from riparian habitat or bodies of water and in a location where a potential spill would not drain directly toward aquatic habitat (e.g., on a slope that drains away from the water source). If it is not possible to stage vehicles at least 60 feet from riparian habitat, then spill prevention BMPs must be in place and/or be onsite and readily accessbile. The monitor shall ensure that contamination of suitable habitat does not occur during such operations. Prior to the onset of work activities, a plan must be in place for prompt and effective response to any accidental spills. All workers shall be informed of the importance of preventing spills and of the appropriate measures to take should an accidental spill occur.

[BR-10] The Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) prepared for the project provides for a 1:1 restoration ratio for temporary impacts and a 3:1 enhancement ratio for permanent impacts. The HMMP identifies the specific mitigation areas. The HMMP will be implemented immediately following project completion. The project HMMP shall utilize native riparian plant species that currently occur in the project area. All trees with a diameter at breast height DBH of four (4) inches or greater will be replaced at a 3:1 ratio, except for trees 24-inches or greater, which will be replaced at a 10:1 ratio.

[BR-11] To minimize impacts to the mixed riparian habitat, removal of mixed riparian habitat shall be limited to the minimum necessary to complete the project.

[BR-12] The spread or introduction of invasive exotic plant species will be avoided to the maximum extent possible. When practicable, invasive exotic plants in the project site shall be removed and properly disposed.

[BR-13] During construction, the project will make all reasonable efforts to limit the use of imported soils for fill. Soils currently existing on-site should be used for fill material. If the use of imported fill material is necessary, the imported material must be obtained from a source that is known to be free of invasive plant species; or the material must consist of purchased clean material such as crushed aggregate, sorted rock, or similar. Imported fill material or aggregate material must come from a surface mine permitted under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975, Pub Res Code § 2710 et seq., or from a source not subject to this act.

[BR-14] To avoid the spread of invasive species, the contractor shall:

A. Stockpile topsoil and redeposit the stockpiled soil on the slopes after construction of the new bridge is complete; or
B. Transport the topsoil to a certified landfill for disposal.

C. All erosion control materials including straw wattles or mulch used on-site must be free of invasive species seed.

[BR-15] If detected during preconstruction surveys, the larkspur species occurrence identified in 2011 shall be designated on the project plans as an environmentally sensitive area (ESA) to avoid adverse impacts to a potentially rare plant. ESA fencing shall be placed around the perimeter of the occurrence during construction to avoid any potential impacts.

[BR-16] If deemed necessary, Caltrans will consult with the USFWS to address potential impacts to listed species.

[BR-17] Prior to the onset of project activities, a qualified biologist will conduct preconstruction surveys for California red-legged frog, southern western pond turtle, Coast Range newt, two-striped garter snake, southwestern willow flycatchers, and least Bell's vireo.

[BR-18] Prior to the onset of project activities, a qualified biologist will conduct a training session for all construction personnel. At a minimum, the training will include a description of the California red-legged frog, southern western pond turtle, Coast Range newt, two-striped garter snake, southwestern willow flycatchers, and least Bell's vireo and their habitat, the specific measures that are being implemented to conserve these species for the current project, and the boundaries within which the project may be accomplished. Brochures, books, and briefings may be used in the training session, provided that a qualified person is on hand to answer any questions.

[BR-19] A qualified biologist will be present at the work site until all California red-legged frog, southern western pond turtle, Coast Range newt, and two-striped garter snakes have been relocated out of harm's way, workers have been instructed, and disturbance of habitat has been completed. After this time, the County will train and designate a person to monitor on-site compliance with all minimization measures.

[BR-20] No pets shall be allowed at the project site.

[BR-21] If any southwestern willow flycatchers or least Bell's vireo are found during preconstruction surveys, Caltrans shall be notified immediately for authorization to continue to work. Work shall not continue without approval from the USFWS.

[BR-22] If feasible, removal of trees will be scheduled to occur in the fall and winter (between September 1 and February 14), after fledging and before the initiation of the nesting season.

[BR-23] If construction activities are scheduled to occur during the nesting season (February 15 through August 31), a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist throughout all areas of potentially suitable and accessible habitats within 200 feet of any proposed construction activities. The pre-construction nesting bird survey will be performed no more than two weeks prior to construction to determine the presence/absence of nesting birds within the project area.

[BR-24] Caltrans shall be immediately notified if any nesting bird species protected under federal law [including the MBTA] are observed during surveys. Caltrans shall coordinate with USFWS regarding appropriate avoidance measures and the County shall coordinate with CDFW regarding appropriate avoidance measures. Work activities shall be avoided within 100 feet of active passerine nests and 200 feet of active raptor nests until young birds have fledged and left the nest(s). Readily visible exclusion zones shall be established in areas where nests must be avoided. Nests, eggs, or young of birds covered by the MBTA and California Fish and Game Code would not be moved or disturbed until the end of the nesting season or until young fledge, whichever is later, nor would adult birds be killed, injured, or harassed at any time.

[BR-25] If a work site is to be temporarily dewatered by pumping, intakes will be completely screened with wire mesh not larger than 0.2 inch to prevent California red-legged frogs from entering the pump system.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

[HM-1] All work will be conducted in compliance with the CAL-OSHA and EPA regulations;

[HM-2] The project site will be closed to through traffic during soil disturbance activities that could result in airborne dust to prevent exposure of inorganic mercury and Valley Fever to motorists;

[HM-3] Soil excavated for the project site shall be stockpiled on plastic sheeting to allow for material sampling and laboratory analysis to ensure that mercury levels do not exceed 0.666 mg/kg. In the event that mercury levels exceed said threshold, soils will be disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations related to hazardous material disposal;

[HM-4] Excavation areas and excavated materials shall be thoroughly wetted to prevent the creation of airborne dust;

[HM-5] Construction personnel protective clothing shall include long-sleeved shirts, steel-toed boots, gloves, and safety glasses. Work clothes shall be changed before leaving the project site and cleaned before reuse;

[HM-6] The County or its contractor shall inspect the project site for animal burrows prior to construction activities. If animal burrows are discovered, the area shall be thoroughly wetted to prevent the release of Valley Fever fungal spores;

[HM-7] Track-out control devices (ex. Rumble-strips, tire brushes, etc.) shall be used to prevent offsite transport of contaminated soil;

[HM-8] Before any construction activities begin on the project, a training session for all construction personnel shall be held to information them of the potential hazards found on the project site, potential exposure routes, personal protective equipment, Valley Fever causes and symptoms, and heat illness symptoms and prevention;

[HM-9] During the course of soil excavation activities at Cypress Mountain Drive, dust suppression techniques will be implemented; and

[HM-10] Construction personnel exposure to dust should be minimized. Exposure prevention methods shall be instituted including on-site dust level monitoring and provision of appropriate respiratory protection to workers.

APPENDIX A

Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement Project at Klau Creek Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

San Luis Obispo County

BRLO-5949(127)

05-SLO-0-CR

Prepared by
San Luis Obispo County
Public Works Department
Environmental Programs Division

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1 INTRODUCTION

This Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) has been prepared to describe the proposed methods for mitigating project impacts to riparian and wetland habitats associated with the Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement project (project) at Klau Creek. The project is anticipated to result in temporary impacts to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) jurisdictions, and permanent and temporary impacts to California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) jurisdiction in Klau Creek. The HMMP follows guidelines presented in the *Checklist for Compensatory Mitigation Proposals* (USACE 2008a) and the *Final Rule for Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources* (USACE 2008b). The Natural Environment Study and the Biological Assessment prepared for the project fully describe the scope and impacts of the proposed project.

2 PROJECT AND SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Responsible Parties and Financial Assurances

As the project applicant, the party responsible for meeting the mitigation obligation pursuant to anticipated conditions of the USACE Nationwide Permit Authorization and other pertinent permits will be:

County of San Luis Obispo
Department of Public Works
County Government Center, Room 206
San Luis Obispo, California 93408

The applicant has included sufficient funding in the overall project budget to implement the HMMP and any required contingency actions.

2.2 Project Location

The project is located approximately 12 miles west of Paso Robles, 8 miles south of Lake Nacimiento, 10 miles east of Cambria, and 11 miles north of Cayucos in San Luis Obispo County, California. The project involves the existing Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge over Klau Creek (refer to Figures 1 & 2).

2.3 Project Summary

The County of San Luis Obispo Public Works Department (County) proposes to replace the existing bridge (Bridge No. 49C0033) on Cypress Mountain Drive over Klau Creek. The bridge will be replaced by constructing a replacement bridge and approaches that meet current American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards.

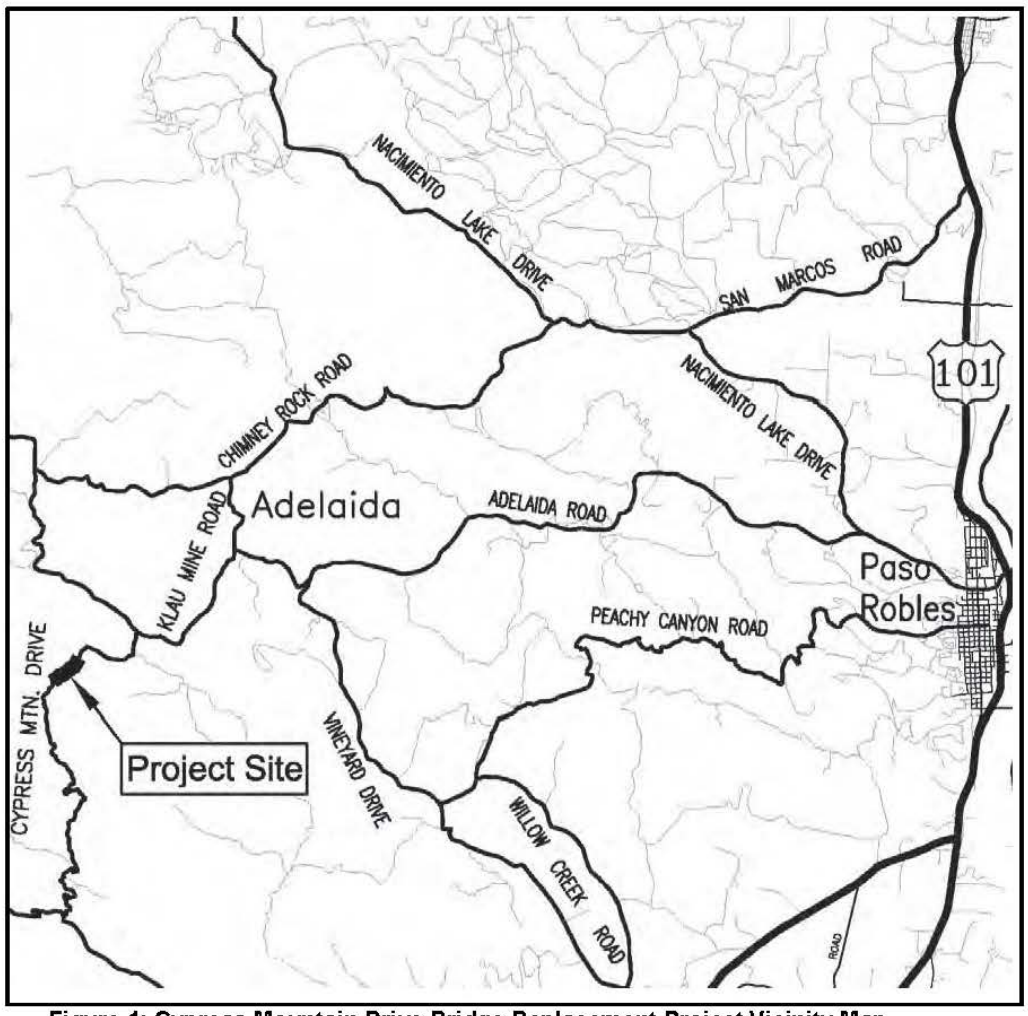


Figure 1: Cypress Mountain Drive Bridge Replacement Project Vicinity Map

Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Figure 2. Project Location Map

Biological Study Area

Klau Creek

N

0 50 100 Ft

Project Study Area
Cypress Mountain Drive at
Klau Creek Bridge (49C-0033)

Basemap Credits: © 2012 Microsoft Corporation

Figure 2

County of San Luis Obispo

The County is proposing to replace the existing structurally deficient bridge on Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Bridge (Bridge No. 49C-0033). The existing bridge was built in 1953 and consists of a one-span timber stringer bridge with a timber plank deck on stone masonry abutments. The existing bridge has a clear deck width of 14 feet (4 meters), which is non-standard for a two-lane facility.

The proposed bridge will follow the existing alignment and will span approximately 50 feet (15 meters) over Klau Creek. The proposed bridge replacement structure would be a reinforced concrete bridge with a clear deck width of 24 feet (8 meters) in order to accommodate 10-feet (3 meters) travel lanes and 2-feet (0.6 meters) shoulders. Concrete barriers with tubular hand railing and guard rail end treatments will be installed on the deck. The proposed bridge replacement activities would be limited to the bridge work between 200 feet (61 meters) and 400 feet (122 meters) of road approach work on either side of the bridge. Right-of-way acquisition for temporary easements onto private properties will be required to accommodate the proposed construction activities. Two proposed staging areas have been identified on the existing road approach on either end of the bridge. Construction equipment will access the site from the existing road.

Activities associated with construction of the new bridge will consist of clearing and grubbing, demolition of the existing bridge, excavation and placement of concrete abutments and cast-in-drilled hole pile foundations, false work installation and removal, placement of reinforced concrete slab, barrier and guard rail installation, rock slope protection (RSP) and habitat restoration. A temporary detour bridge across the creek on the east side of the existing bridge will be required to allow access for residents until construction of the new bridge is completed. It is anticipated that several trees within the riparian area will need to be removed to accommodate the construction of the new bridge as well as the temporary detour bridge. Work in the channel will be required for the removal of the existing bridge, placement of the Temporary creek crossing, and installation and removal of the false work. A temporary creek diversion will likely be required to convey flows through the project site. The creek diversion will include temporary cofferdams at the upstream and downstream ends of the project to isolate the work area.

2.4 Existing Conditions

The Biological Study Area (BSA) is approximately 65,340 square feet (1.50 acres) and consists of the maximum area needed in order to complete this bridge replacement project and includes the locations of the proposed bridge replacement, road alignment improvements, potential staging areas, and the temporary detour bridge (Figure 2). The BSA includes natural wetland areas, creek banks, and road shoulders.

Aside from a few rural residences, the surrounding areas are predominantly undeveloped. Klau Creek is a perennial stream that exhibits annual cyclic variation is water levels. It is one of several main-stem tributaries in the region, which is often referred to generally as the Las Tablas Drainage Area. The reach of Klau Creek associated with the project site spans approximately 2.3 linear miles (3.7 kilometers) and approximately 536 linear feet (105 meters) occur within the BSA. This reach is also referred to as the South Fork of the Las Tablas Creek on several reference maps.

2.5 Jurisdictional Areas to be Impacted by Habitat Type

Habitat types present within the BSA include mixed riparian, foothill woodland, and ruderal/developed (Holland 1986; Sawyer, Keeler-Wolf, Evans 2009). The mixed riparian habitat forms the riparian canopy and demarcates the CDFW jurisdiction in Klau Creek. The Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) was measured to be 1 foot (0.3 meters), designating the USACE and RWQCB jurisdictions. Impacts to jurisdictional areas are presented in Table 1.

2.5.1 Mixed Riparian

Mixed riparian forest habitat occurs in the relative center of the BSA and is adjacent to and associated with Klau Creek. The dominant tree species observed within this community include valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), California bay laurel (*Umbellularia californica*), western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), and white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*). Several shrub and vine species were observed in this community including: California coffeeberry (*Frangula californica*), California rose (*Rosa californica*), western poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), and California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*). The understory of the mixed riparian community was variable. Several giant horsetail (*Equisetum telmateia ssp. braunii*), California yampah (*Perideridia californica*), California hedge nettle (*Stachys bullata*), and tall flatsedge (*Cyperus eragrostis*) were observed. The mixed riparian vegetation community onsite most closely corresponds to element #61510 – White Alder Riparian Forest in the Holland classification system (Holland, 1986) and to the *Alnus rhombifolia* Forest Alliance in the Sawyer classification system (Sawyer et al., 2009). However the species composition of the community observed onsite varies quite a bit from the descriptions provided in these standard classifications.

2.5.2 Foothill Woodland

Most of the upland areas within the BSA are composed of foothill woodland. This vegetation community occurs beyond the mixed riparian community, excluding Cypress Mountain Drive. The dominant tree species observed within this community include coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), valley oak, and foothill pine (*Pinus sabiniana*). The trees are not very densely distributed and moderate amounts of understory typically surround each individual.

The understory is dominated by non-native grasses including slender wild oat (*Avena barbata*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), soft chess brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*) and red brome (*Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens*). Less dominant species include purple clarkia (*Clarkia purpurea*), Durango root (Datisca glomerata), goldback fern (*Pentagramma triangularis ssp. triangularis*), larkspur (*Delphinium parryi*), pink fairy lantern (*Calochortus albus var. rubellus*), blow wives (*Achyrachaena mollis*), winecup clarkia (*Clarkia purpurea*), California dandelion (*Agoseris grandiflora*), narrow leaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*), and wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*). Several shrub and vine species were also observed intermittently throughout this community including: western poison oak, mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*), hollyleaf redberry (*Rhamnus ilicifolia*), and toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*). The foothill woodland community type within the BSA most closely corresponds to element #71160 – Coast Live Oak Woodland in the Holland classification system (Holland, 1986) and to the Quercus agrifolia Woodland Alliance in the Sawyer classification system (Sawyer et al., 2009). However, the precise species composition of the community onsite varies significantly from both of these descriptions due to the presence of foothill pine as a co-dominant species.

On a similar note, the foothill woodland community onsite does not constitute a valley oak woodland type, which is recognized as a sensitive community. The estimated absolute tree cover observed within the foothill woodland community onsite is well above 30 to 40 percent.

The BSA does not occur within a valley; but rather is situated within relatively steep topography. Alluvial, deep clay soils that most commonly facilitate valley oak woodland communities do not occur within the site.

2.5.3 Ruderal/Developed

The areas mapped as ruderal/developed within the BSA include all of the paved or otherwise disturbed areas onsite that are associated with Cypress Mountain Drive. Given that this community type is not naturally occurring, it is not described in either the Holland or Sawyer classification systems (Holland, 1986 and Sawyer et al., 2009). This habitat type is bound by a barbed wire fence to the north and south of the bridge along the road shoulders of Cypress Mountain Drive and a dirt berm is present on the western shoulder of the road, just south of the bridge. Non-native weedy species are the dominant plants that occur within this community including various brome grasses (*Bromus* spp.) and Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*).

2.6 Function and Value Assessment

The water depth within the BSA varies, but the deeper pools underneath and immediately upstream of the bridge were approximately 3 feet (1 meter) deep during the jurisdictional assessment. Water flows were generally slow-moving to still throughout the stream and immediate vicinity of the bridge. Three different attributes were observed in the stream channel within the BSA including glide, low gradient riffle, and pool. The substrates observed within the stream channel varied and include sand, gravel, cobble, and boulder. No emergent vegetation was observed within the stream channel and low to moderate amounts of debris (typically downed logs) were noted.

Klau Creek and its riparian community provide important shelter habitat, foraging habitat, and a movement corridor for a variety of wildlife species. The BSA supports suitable habitat for California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*); however, the BSA is not within a critical habitat unit for this species. Klau Creek is within the Salinas Watershed and flows in a northeasterly direction outside the BSA. It eventually joins the Las Tablas Creek, which drains into Lake Nacimiento. Rainbow trout were observed within the BSA as well; these trout are landlocked above Nacimiento Dam and are not considered federally listed steelhead (Dave Highland, pers. comm. 2013). The BSA also supports habitat for southern western pond turtles (*Actinemys pallida*) and two-striped garter snakes (*Thamnophis hammondii*). A fair amount of benthic invertebrates are supported by the creek in this location as well.

3 GOALS OF THE HABITAT MITIGATION AND MONITORING PLAN

Implementation of this HMMP will mitigate for permanent and temporary impacts to jurisdictional areas and restore appropriate native vegetation to disturbed portions of the project site. This HMMP addresses the project-related impacts to USACE, CDFW, and RWQCB jurisdictional areas using on-site and in-kind habitat restoration and enhancement within the stream channel. The following compensatory mitigation ratios are proposed:

- On-site mitigation for permanent impacts to jurisdictional areas would be implemented at a 3:1 ratio.
- On-site mitigation for temporary impacts to jurisdictional areas would be implemented at a 1:1 ratio.

3.1 Mitigation Strategy

The proposed bridge construction project will result in the below approximate permanent and temporary impacts to USACE and CDFW jurisdictions. Both permanent and temporary impacts to these jurisdictional areas have been quantified for the project (refer to Table 1 and Figure 3). All compensatory mitigation for the project will be in-kind (i.e., essentially the same species, functions, and values as the habitats to be replaced) and will occur within the BSA.

Table 1. Summary of Approximate Impact and Mitigation Acreage Requirements

Jurisdictional Area	Impact Type	Impact Area (acres)	Mitigation Ratio	Required Mitigation Area (acres)
USACE non-wetland waters	Permanent	0.003	3:1	0.006
	Temporary	0.091	1:1	0.091
		Total USACE Mitigation Requirement		**0.097**
CDFW streambed and riparian*	Permanent	0.021	3:1	0.063
	Temporary	0.279	1:1	0.279
		Total CDFW Mitigation Requirement		**0.342**
Total Mitigation Acreage Required for USACE/CDFW Combined Permanent and Temporary Impacts				*0.342*
USACE/CDFW Mitigation to be performed on-site in Temporary Impact Areas				*0.279 = **0.28***
Permanent Impact Mitigation Area Required				*0.063 = **0.06***

***INCLUDES** all USACE Jurisdictional Areas

3.1.1 Permanent Impacts

Permanent impacts to jurisdictional areas will be mitigated at a 3:1 ratio. The permanent impact mitigation area would be located within and adjacent to the project footprint. Compensatory mitigation for permanent impacts will be a combination of habitat enhancement resulting from the enhancement of disturbed and undisturbed riparian vegetation adjacent to the creek. Habitat enhancement activities will include removing non-native plant species, trash removal, and planting riparian scrub species where needed.

3.1.2 Temporary Impacts

Temporary impacts to jurisdictional areas on the creek banks will be mitigated at a 1:1 ratio by restoring the topography and vegetation in the temporarily impacted areas. Temporary impact restoration activities will focus on re-contouring the disturbed areas, placing geotextiles or erosion control blankets, and applying an appropriate seed mix. Temporary impacts within the creek channel will be restored naturally.

3.2 Target Functions and Values

The goal of the HMMP is to restore and enhance the diverse and valuable biological and hydrologic resources within the project area. A significant decrease in functions and values is not expected because opening up the streambed beneath the bridge and allowing the restoration of riverine habitat will enable seasonal freshwater habitat conditions to become re-established, the loss of vegetation will be minimized, and stream contours will be restored to reduce erosion.

The bridge replacement activities will result in a less constricted, more open creek channel. The abutments will be placed further back on the bank of Klau Creek to accommodate a wider bridge deck. Thus, the abutments of the new bridge will no longer be located below OHWM and/or within USACE jurisdictional areas. The streambed and riverine habitat will be enhanced and restored as a result of the structure being moved out of the low-flow channel. Based on this habitat enhancement, the functional value of the project site will increase as a result of project activities.

3.3 Time Lapse between Impacts and Expected Compensatory Mitigation Success

Implementation of the HMMP would begin upon completion of construction activities within temporary impact areas. Revegetation is anticipated to occur in the fall and early winter, when the plant materials have the greatest chance of becoming established. The standard 5-year monitoring period will be followed for the project, and mitigation success is anticipated to occur within the 5-year timeframe. Table 2 provides a proposed schedule for mitigation and monitoring.

Table 2. Proposed Mitigation and Monitoring Schedule*

YEAR 1	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Implementation Tasks												
Construction Monitoring						X	X	X	X	X		
Prepare Planting Areas										X		
Install and Water Plantings											X	
Site/Revegetation Monitoring										X	X	X
Mitigation Implementation Report												X
YEAR 2	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEP**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**
First Year Tasks												
Weeding/Maintenance	X		X			X		X			X	
General Site Monitoring			X			X				X		X
Biological Data Collection			X							X		
Annual Report												X
YEAR 3	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEP**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**
Second Year Tasks												
Weeding/Maintenance		X		X		X		X			X	
General Site Monitoring				X		X				X		X
Biological Data Collection				X						X		
Annual Report												X
YEAR 4	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEP**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**
Third Year Tasks												
Weeding/Maintenance		X		X		X		X		X		
General Site Monitoring				X						X		
Biological Data Collection				X						X		
Annual Report												X
YEAR 5	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEP**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**
Fourth Year Tasks												
General Site Monitoring				X						X		X
Biological Data Collection				X						X		
Annual Report												X
YEAR 6	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEP**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**
Fifth Year Tasks												
General Site Monitoring				X						X		X
Biological Data Collection				X						X		
Completion Report												X

*Schedule subject to change if date of implementation is delayed or permit conditions dictate otherwise.

4 MITIGATION AND RESTORATION IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

4.1 Site Preparation

Implementation of the restoration and mitigation activities will be conducted or overseen by a County-approved restoration specialist. The restoration specialist will oversee site preparation, invasive weed removal, seeding, and planting installation, and will ensure conformity with this HMMP. Restoration and enhancement activities will commence upon completion of grading and construction, and prior to the onset of the rainy season.

4.1.1 Temporary Impact Restoration Areas

Site preparation of temporary impact areas will consist of restoring the disturbed areas to original contours where possible. Areas that cannot be returned to original contours will be graded to a hydrologically stable configuration that matches adjacent undisturbed areas. Hydroseed or erosion control blankets will be used to stabilize disturbed upland areas. Applied seed mixes will be composed of native riparian species including purple needlegrass (*Nassella pulchra*), small fescue (*Festuca microstachys*), California bedstraw (*Galium californicum*), narrow leaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*), umbrella sedge (*Cyperus eragostis*), creeping snowberry (*Symphoricarpos mollis*), and golden yarrow (*Eriophyllum confertiflorum* var. *confertiflorum*). Container stock will be installed above the OHWMs. Upper bank areas will be stabilized with a riparian/grassland hydroseed mix per the project Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and planted with riparian shrubs and trees.

Table 3: Riparian Seed Mix Species

Scientific name	Common name
Asclepias fascicularis	Small fescue
Cyperus eragrostis	Umbrella sedge
Eriophyllum confertiflorum var. confertiflorum	Golden yarrow
Festuca microstachys	Small fescue
Galium californicum	California bedstraw
Nassella pulchra	Purple needlegrass
Symphoricarpos mollis	Creeping snowberry

4.1.2 Permanent Impact Mitigation Areas

Prior to planting for mitigation of permanent impacts, all invasive weed species will be removed by hand. Herbicides will not be used as the primary method to control invasive, exotic plants. However, if it is determined that the use of herbicides is the only feasible method for controlling invasive plants; the following additional measures to protect California red-legged frogs (CRLF) will be implemented, per the Biological Assessment prepared for the project (Rincon 2014):

a) Herbicides will not be applied during the breeding season for CRLF.
b) Surveys for CRLF will be conducted immediately prior to the start of herbicide use. If found, CRLF will be relocated to suitable habitat far enough from the project area that no direct contact with herbicide would occur.

c) Giant reed and other invasive plants will be cut and hauled out by hand and painted with glyphosate-based products, such as Aquamaster or Rodeo.
d) Licensed and experienced personnel will use a hand held sprayer for foliar application of Aquamaster or Rodeo where large monoculture stands occur at a project site.
e) All precautions will be taken to ensure that no herbicide is applied to native vegetation.
f) Herbicide will not be applied on or near open water surfaces (no closer than 60 feet from open water).
g) Foliar applications of herbicide will not occur when wind speed is in excess of 3 mph.
h) No herbicides will be applied within 24 hours of forecasted rain.
i) Application of all herbicides will be done by licensed and experienced personnel to ensure that overspray is minimized, that all applications is made in accordance with the label recommendations, and with implementation of all required and reasonable safety measures. A safe dye will be added to the mixture to visually denote treated sites. Application of herbicides will be consistent with the U.S. Environmental Protection Program county bulletins.
j) All herbicides, fuels, lubricants, and equipment will be stored, poured, or refilled at least 60 feet from riparian habitat or water bodies in a location where a spill would not drain directly toward aquatic areas. Prior to the onset of work, a plan will be implemented to ensure for a prompt and effective response to accidental spills. All workers will be informed of project Spill Response Plan requirements.

Plantings will consist of container stock and will be installed following invasive species removal efforts conducted by the County-approved restoration specialist.

4.2 Use of Container Stock

Container stock may be used to supplement hydroseeding in the areas temporarily and permanently impacted, as well as the mitigation area adjacent to the project site which is currently ruderal vegetation and coyote brush. The project shall utilize native riparian plant species that currently occur in the BSA. Such species include but are not limited to valley oak, California bay laurel, western sycamore, white alder, California coffeeberry, California rose, and California blackberry. Planting standards are provided in Section 4 below. The County-approved restoration specialist shall oversee the container stock installation.

Table 4: Riparian Stock Species

Scientific name	Common name
Alnus rhombifolia	White alder
Frangula californica	California coffeeberry
Platanus racemosa	Western sycamore
Quercus lobata	Valley oak
Rosa californica	California rose
Rubus ursinus	California blackberry
Umbellularia californica	California bay laurel

4.3 Planting Methodology

4.3.1 Installation

4.3.1.1 CONTAINER STOCK

Container stock will be installed by hand and subject to the following conditions:

- Container stock will be planted at 5-foot centers in unvegetated areas and in gaps with vegetated areas.
- Prior to planting container stock, an area 2 feet in diameter at each proposed planting location shall be manually cleared of non-native species.
- All planting holes shall be dug to equal the depth and 1.5 times the width of the rootball or rhizome.
- Each planting shall be planted in the center of the pit, and backfilled with native material. Rhizomes should not be disturbed when planting.

4.3.1.2 SOIL STABILIZATION AND SEEDING

All bare soil located above the OHWM will be covered with erosion control blankets or geotextiles and seeded with a native riparian/grassland mix immediately following construction to ensure establishment of native vegetative growth and for soil stabilization purposes. The seed mix shall at minimum consist of the following species: purple needlegrass (*Nassella pulchra*) and small fescue (*Festuca microstachys*).

5 MAINTENANCE PLAN

Maintenance during plant establishment is necessary to ensure success of the mitigation effort. The 5-year maintenance period will begin immediately upon completion of the mitigation planting. At the end of the maintenance period, the appropriate regulatory resource agencies will review the monitoring reports, evaluate whether the performance standards have been met, and determine whether the maintenance period will be ended or extended. The maintenance program will ensure that watering of installed plants, weed control, trash removal, vandalism, replanting, plant protection, and site protection are performed adequately.

5.1 Watering

Supplemental water will be applied to the restoration plantings via water truck. County Right-of-Way located adjacent to the site provides suitable surfaces for the water truck to access all portions of the restoration and enhancement areas.

5.2 Weed Control and Herbicide Use

Weed control will be performed by hand methods during regularly scheduled monitoring site visits (refer to Table 2). Pursuant to the California red-legged frog avoidance measures, the County will not rely on herbicides for weed control. However, if the use of herbicides is deemed necessary, the County will utilize herbicides on a limited basis and follow the measures outlined in Section 4.3.2 of this plan.

5.3 Trash Removal

Any trash will be removed as necessary during the regularly scheduled monitoring visits (refer to Table 2).

5.4 Vandalism

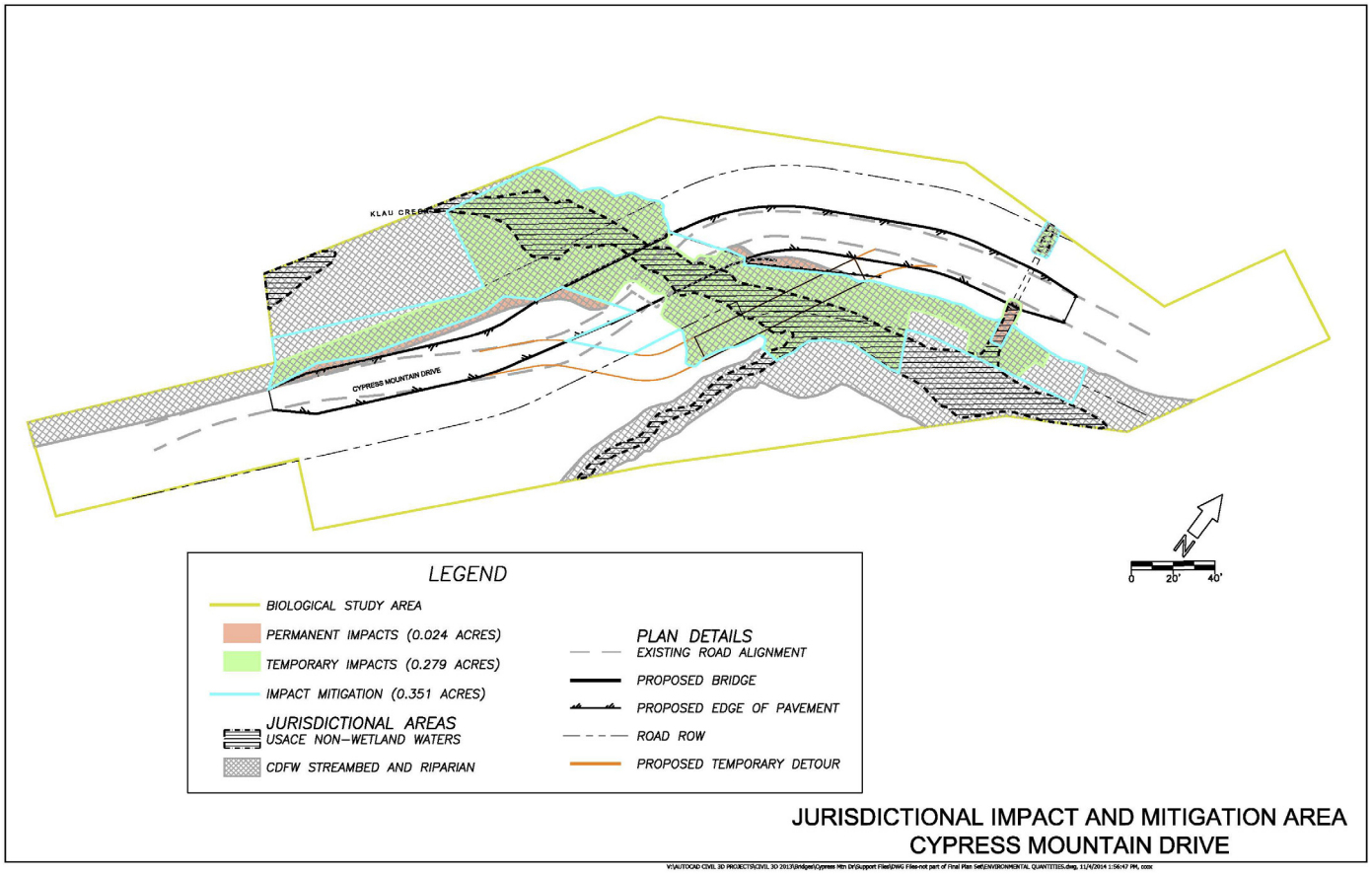
Vandalism of the site is not expected. Any vandalism of restoration plantings that compromise success goals will be rectified with replacement plantings.

5.5 Remedial Planting

Remedial planting will be performed as necessary to remain in compliance with the targeted success goals/criteria. Any such plantings will be performed per the HMMP planting methods and requirements.

5.6 Fertilizing

The use of fertilizers is not anticipated.



JURISDICTIONAL IMPACT AND MITIGATION AREA
CYPRESS MOUNTAIN DRIVE

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6 MONITORING PLAN

In order to accomplish project goals and objectives, the monitoring program will provide qualitative data to determine the success of the mitigation area, and to identify the need for subsequent mitigation.

The project restoration specialist and/or County Environmental Resource Specialist will collect and evaluate data indicating the relationship between actual site conditions and the performance criteria. Field monitoring and sampling will be followed by preparation of brief reports that include photo-documentation and evaluation of the success of the mitigation effort based on whether or not the annual performance goals for that year were met.

6.1 Monitoring Schedule

The monitoring program will consist of general monitoring visits and annual biological data collection visits (refer to Table 2). General monitoring visits can be conducted concurrently with maintenance visits. The focus of general monitoring visits is to assess the plantings need for supplemental water or other maintenance-related issues. The focus of the biological monitoring visits is to collect data that will provide an assessment of the site's relative vegetative cover of mixed riparian and foothill woodland vegetation.

The County will conduct surveys at the project site (minimum of 1 a year) for a minimum of 5 years as a part of standard mitigation reporting requirements. Surveys will include photo monitoring sites. At a minimum, the restoration specialist will monitor the site quarterly during the first 3 years after planting and semi-annually for the fourth and fifth years of the monitoring program (refer to Table 2). After large storm events that inundate the site, the restoration specialist and/or County Environmental Resource Specialist will inspect the site for damage. The restoration specialist will ensure that the project is maintained as necessary during the monitoring period.

6.2 Performance Goals

Table 3 lists the annual performance standards for the mitigation areas. The mitigation areas will be monitored as necessary until the final success criteria are met. If the program is determined to be unsuccessful, the restoration specialist will recommend appropriate contingency measures. The mitigation sites will not be considered successful until the involved regulatory agencies have provided written verification that the final success criteria have been met. It is anticipated that by the third year, the mitigation sites will be well established and functioning such that it should be self-sustaining for the long term.

Table 5. Performance Standards and Final Success Criteria

Mitigation Area	Mitigation Area Native Vegetative Cover Goal				
	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5
Temporary Impact Restoration Area	20%	35%	50%	65%	80%
Permanent Impact Mitigation Area	30%	45%	55%	60%	85%

6.3 Other Attributes to be Monitored

The presence of native volunteer species indicates that the site conditions are suitable for development of self-sustaining natural habitat. New non-native species occurrences noted during monitoring must be removed before they produce seed. Monitoring activities will observe and record the presence of such species and determine if action is required.

All wildlife observed in and around the mitigation areas will be documented as to species, and functional use of habitat (i.e., feeding, nesting, roosting, etc.). Photo points will be established throughout the mitigation site to assist in tracking the success of the mitigation program. Permanent photo points will also be established during the preparation of the as-built planting plan, and ground view photos will be taken during each monitoring year from the same vantage point.

6.4 Reporting Requirements

The different regulatory agencies that have discretionary approval over the bridge replacement project have varying reporting requirements associated with the mitigation effort. The reporting requirements for each agency are discussed below.

6.4.1 United States Army Corps of Engineers

Annual reports shall be written pursuant to the USACE Mitigation Monitoring Guidelines requirements (refer to Appendix A) during the 5-year monitoring period.

6.4.2 Regional Water Quality Control Board

A RWQCB water quality certification typically requires submittal of a project completion report and two annual monitoring reports pertaining to the project.

6.4.3 California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CDFW typically requires submittal of annual monitoring reports that must include photo documentation to detail the progression of the revegetation efforts.

7 COMPLETION OF COMPENSATORY MITIGATION

7.1 Notification of Completion

The applicant will notify the USACE, RWQCB, and CDFW in writing upon completion of the monitoring period and attainment of the success criteria. Following receipt of the final monitoring report, the applicant understands that the agencies may request a site visit to confirm the completion of the compensatory mitigation effort and any jurisdictional delineation.

8 CONTINGENCY MEASURES

8.1 Adaptive Management

The mitigation sites should be self-sustaining (i.e., no maintenance or artificial irrigation) for a period of 2 years to be considered successful. If replanting is determined to be necessary, replanted areas will be monitored and maintained for a period agreeable to the relevant regulatory agencies. If a total site failure is evident, the applicant shall coordinate with the involved regulatory agencies to determine what alternative compensatory mitigation will be required. Identification of alternative mitigation sites may be necessary.

8.2 Long-Term Management

If it becomes apparent that the mitigation effort will not attain the final success criteria within the expected time frame, the applicant will begin an assessment of reasons for failure and will work with the involved regulatory agencies to determine an acceptable solution. If the site trends indicate that the success criteria will eventually be met but in a longer timeframe than anticipated, maintenance and monitoring will continue until the criteria have been satisfied.

9 REFERENCES

Highland, Dave. April 26, 2013. Personal Communication. Resident rainbow trout. California Department of Fish and Wildlife. (805) 549-6118.

Holland, R.F., 1986. Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California. California Department of Fish and Game.

Rincon Consultants. 2014. Cypress Mountain Drive at Klau Creek Highway Bridge Replacement Project, Biological Assessment, BRLO-5949(127). April 2014.

Sawyer, J., T. Keeler-Wolf, and J. Evens. 2009. A Manual of California Vegetation. 2nd ed. California Native Plant Society.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 2008a. Checklist for Compensatory Mitigation Proposals, Compensatory Mitigation Checklist – Page 1 of 5. Charleston District, Regulatory Branch, Charleston, South Carolina.

———. 2008b. Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources; Final Rule. Federal Register Vol. 73, No. 70:19594-19705. April 10, 2008.

Appendix A.
Monitoring Report Guidelines

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mitigation and Monitoring Report Requirements

The required compensatory mitigation monitoring reports shall be a minimum of six pages and a maximum of eight pages. The following information shall be included within the report of the specific pages described below:

Pages 1-2:

A. Project Information

1. Project Name.
2. Applicant name, address, and phone number.
3. Consultant name, address, and phone number (for permit application, if necessary).
4. Corps permit file number.
5. Acres of impact and type(s) of habitat impacted (or proposed for impact)
6. Date project construction commenced (or proposed to begin).
7. Location of the project and directions to site (including latitude/longitude or UTM coordinates).
8. Date of the report and the corresponding permit conditions pertaining to the compensatory mitigation.
9. Amount and information on any required performance bond or surety.

B. Compensatory Mitigation Site Information

1. Location and directions to the site (including latitude/longitude or UTM coordinates).
2. Size and type(s) of habitat existing at the site and proposed for restoration, enhancement, and/or creation.
3. Stated purpose/goals for the compensatory mitigation site.
4. Date site construction and planting completed.
5. dates of previous maintenance and monitoring visits.
6. Name, address, and contact number of responsible agent for the site.
7. Name, address, and contact number for designer.

C. Brief Summary of Remedial Actions(s) and Maintenance of the Compensatory Mitigation Site

Page 2 or 3:

A. Map of the compensatory mitigation site

1. 8 ½ Diagram of the site including:

    a. Habitat types (as constructed).
    b. Locations of photographic record stations.
    c. Landmarks
    d. Inset defining location of the site.

Page 3 or 4:

A. List of Corps-approved success criteria.
B. Table of results from the monitoring visits versus performance standards for specified target dates.

Page 4, 5, and/or 6:

A. Photographic record of the site during most recent monitoring visit at record stations (at least four photos on at least one page, no more than two pages).

Page 5, 6, or 7:

A. Summary of field data taken to determine compliance with performance criteria. At least one page, no more than two pages.

Page 6, 7, 8 (if needed):

A. Summary of any significant events that occurred on the site that may affect ultimate compensatory mitigation success.

The completed monitoring reports shall be submitted unbound to the Corps for inclusion into the official case file. Electronic copies of these reports can be submitted in lieu of written reports and may be required in the future.